The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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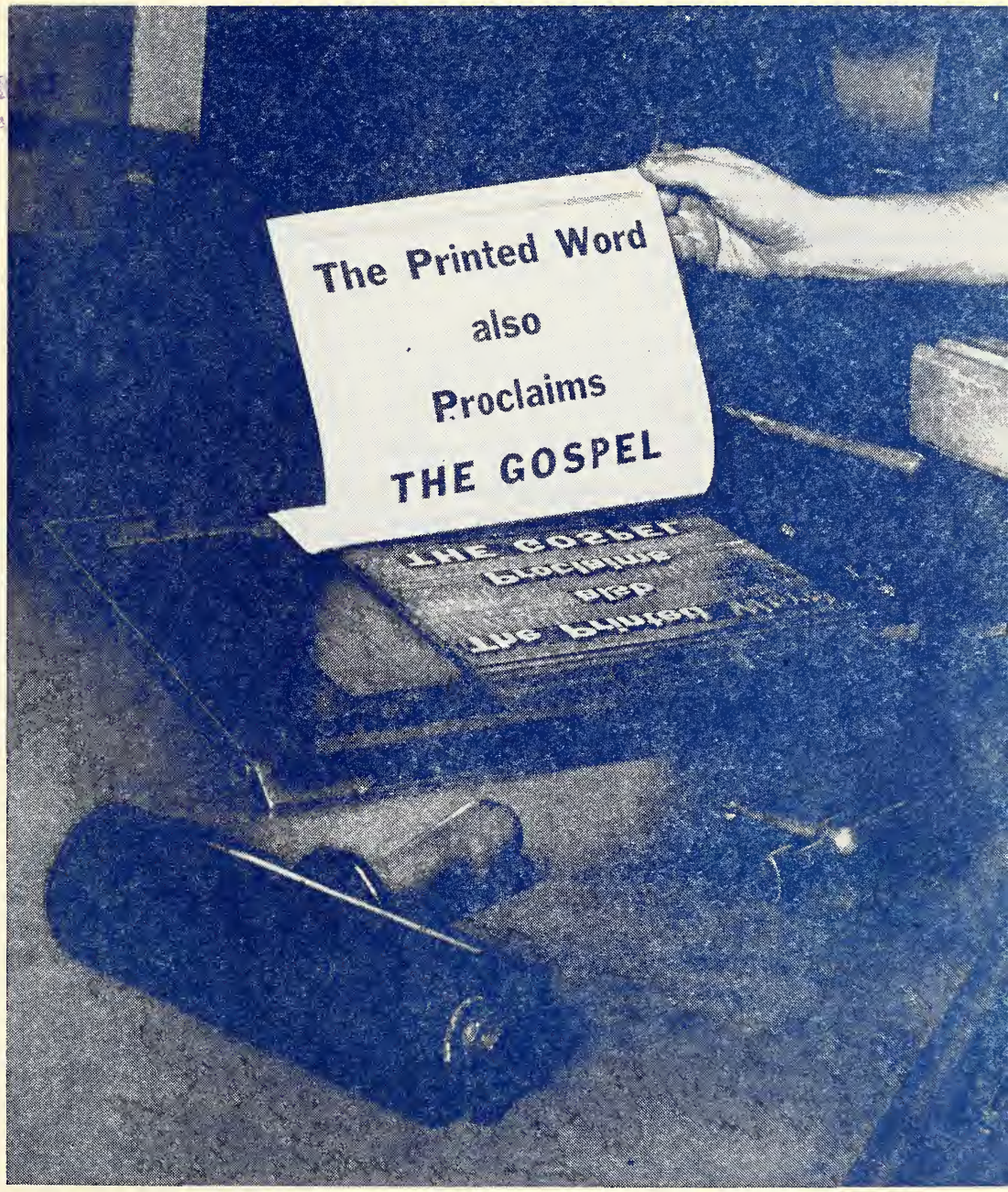
The Brethren Publishing Company, Ashland, Ohio



VOL. LXXVIII January 7, 1956 No. 1

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

Published weekly, except the fourth week in July and the last week in December.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: $1.50 per year in advance.

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THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING COMPANY, Ashland, Ohio, Phone: 37271

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE: J. E. Stookey, President, H. E. Weidenhamer, Vice-Pres.; Rev. Robert Hoffman, Sec'y-Treas.

EDITOR OF PUBLICATIONS—Rev. W. St. Clair Benshoff

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Rev. William H. Anderson
Rev. C. Y. Gilmer
Rev. Dyoll Belote
Rev. John Byler

DEPARTMENT EDITORS
Rev. L. O. McCartneysmith, Brethren Doctrine
Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Church History
Rev. Edwin Boardman, Church Methods

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: In ordering change of address always give both old and new addresses.
REMITTANCES: Send all money, business communications, and contributed articles to:
THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING COMPANY, ASHLAND, OHIO.

Items of General Interest

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If you know of Brethren people living in Phoenix, please send their names (and addresses, if possible) to this office by January 14 (when Berkshire leaves for California) or as soon after as possible, so that he may be reached when he arrives in Phoenix.

Your cooperation in this initial inquiry may result in the building of another Brethren Church. BE AN INTERESTED AND ALERT BRETHREN.

Send names to

The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church
524 College Avenue
Ashland, Ohio.

The Editor's Pulpit

Another New Year

WITH STARTLING SPEED the old year of 1955 has passed into history, and 1956 has come to be with us for 366 days.

There comes a period in the life of every individual when retrospection brings about the thought of the "piling up" of the years of life—their accomplishments—their failures. With this thought comes the question as to how much longer the years will continue to "pile up" for one's life.

It is then that a person begins to adopt a pattern of living which most certainly includes preparedness for the life to come, as well as a quickening of effort and labor to accomplish more per hour, per day, per year. One begins to live more victoriously than ever before. He begins to see the larger picture of service to God and man, and of laboring to leave behind some mark—some accomplishment—some good—some soul won to Christ, that will make his life worthwhile.

He does this because he knows that in the great plan of God, the day will come when God will say, "Enough," and the records of this life will forever stand as of that moment.

One is made more conscious of this matter at a year's end.

Time could be spent in seeking to account for 1955. Time could probably be better spent in planning and anticipating 1956.

We cannot always control the mishaps and misfortunes which come to us—but, we can do something about how we react to these things. A well-ordered life will take the hard days and misfortunes in stride.

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CHRIST PREACHES through THE PRINTED PAGE

Rev. John T. Byler

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my pathway." Psalm 119:105.

THE MESSAGE OF OUR LORD is one that has been made available to man in a number of ways. It was available to man long before the coming of Christ to the earth, through man's conscience, through revelations in dreams and visions, through the prophecies of men of God, through the law which God gave to His people through Moses, as well as in still other methods.

The Greatest method of bringing the message of God's purpose and plan for man's salvation, of course, was the one in which Christ, Himself, came to bring the message in person. He revealed God the Father, and made Him known to all who would receive Him, in His day. But for the future expansion of the work that was begun during the time of Jesus' ministry upon earth, other means of preaching the Word was essential. Jesus called followers to becomes his disciples. These were instructed in the program of promoting the work of the Kingdom, but with Jesus' departure from the earthly scene, it became necessary to give to those who were called to be His ministers and spokesman, a guidebook or outline of procedure. This guidebook or outline of procedure, we have in the infallible Word of God—the Bible. It is God's Word. It holds the answers to the problems of life to all who will follow its instructions. And it is the means whereby Christ continues to preach, today, bringing power and blessing and help in every kind of difficulty.

It bears repeating—the Bible is God's Word. It is without error if we allow for human error in copying and translating. God has inspired the writing of each passage. Listen to the witness of three men. David, as he lay dying, said: "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue." (II Sam. 23:2); Peter reported that: "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." (II Peter 1:21); and Paul, in writing of the Scriptures said: "All Scripture is given by Inspiration of God." (II Tim. 3:16). The Bible not only contains God's Word—it IS God's word. We must either accept, on the testimony of these writers and others, this one fact concerning God's Word, or we necessarily reject the whole of it. And, since Jesus came from God, and made God known to man, this Book which was written to make His mission and purpose known, is still the way in which He preaches to men today.

I. THE BIBLE IS A LOGICAL WAY OF GOD'S REVEALING HIMSELF TO MAN.

He might have used angels; there could have been some heavenly message sent to man, but the likelihood stands that we would probably have misinterpreted the message or perhaps have never recognized it as a message from God to us. So He used the simple method of words. More than 3,000 times we find a "Thus saith the Lord" or an expression of like meaning, in the Word of God—this Book compiled by some 40 different writers.

An article prepared especially for this Publication Day Issue.

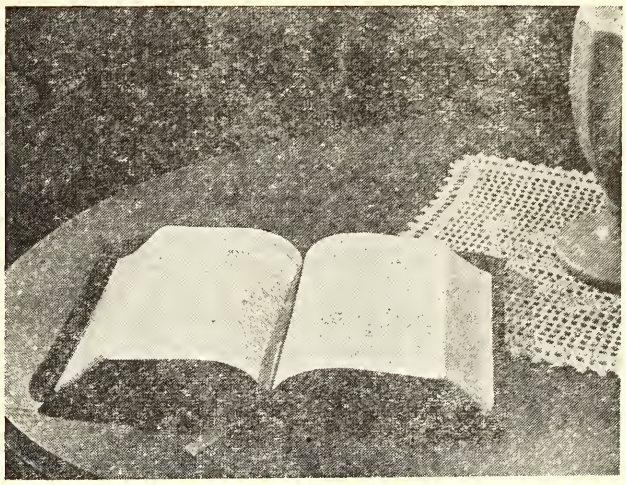
Let us assume momentarily, that these writers were wrong. If they were, how did they agree to be wrong on their message, with its central purpose—written over a period of centuries—by men who had no contact with or knowledge of each other? Their agreement is so definite—even though their contributions have come throughout different generations—that except for a guiding hand, the idea of the agreement is impossible. That guiding hand was the guiding hand of God, and these men were not liars, but God-fearing, faithful men.

II. THE BIBLE MAKES THE CLAIM, OF ITSELF, THAT IT IS THE WORD OF GOD.

In many different passages the Bible refers to itself as God's Word. Paul, in writing to the Corinthians says of it, (I Cor. 14:36): "What, came the Word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?" He is known as one of the writers of the Book—yet he unhesitatingly indicates his belief that he is not responsible for the words he has written, but that they were given unto him. In Corinthians, again, (II Cor. 4:2) the Scriptures are spoken of as the Word of God. And in Hebrews 4:12, the writer speaks of some of the powers and attributes of the Word of God, which he is writing, under divine guidance. Many are the references of this type to the Bible and no one can successfully contradict the claim that the Bible makes of itself—that it is the Word of God.

III. THE BIBLE CARRIES THE ENDORSEMENT OF CHRIST AS THE WORD OF GOD.

In one instance in the Scriptures (Luke 24:27) we read of the fact that "beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them all the scriptures the things concerning Himself." The very fact that Jesus used the Old Testament writings as a means of proving His identity and purpose, makes His attitude toward the Bible as God's Word, certain. And in John 14:26 He refers to Himself and His teachings, and reminds the disciples that the things which He taught will be brought to their remembrance by the Holy Ghost. Jesus left no doubt in the minds of His followers what He thought concerning the Scriptures. And He counted upon their being used by them, and other disciples in the years that followed, as a witness of His work. He knew where the Bible came from; He knew what its function and purpose was; and He counted upon its being used to witness of Him and His work to the gen-



erations that would live after His departure from the earthly scene. Christ not only used the printed page to preach in the day when He walked the earth as a human being, but He expected it to be used by His disciples in the generations that followed. And today, the Bible still is "quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword" accomplishing in the hearts of many what the words of men could never accomplish.

IV. THE FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY ALSO TESTIFIES THAT THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD.

One of the very interesting prophetic utterances in the Old Testament is one made by the prophet, Ezekiel (26:4-5) when he says "and they shall destroy the walls of Tyrus, and break down her towers: I will scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock. It shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God: and it shall become a spoil to the nations." This city was a proud one—a city built out upon a promontory of rock, and because of its peculiar situation, thought by its people to be impregnable. This prophecy concerning its future was something to scoff at, in the light of its fortress-like appearance. But the Bible outlived the city, and saw its prophecy fulfilled to the letter. Alexander the Great not only conquered the city, but tore it down and destroyed it—scraping it off the top of the rocks upon which it was built, and today the shallow waters of the sea which has encompassed the area are now the fishing grounds of men who cast their nets for fish.

Other remarkable prophecies are contained in the Book. Some of them seemed fantastic—others

seemed utterly impossible to realize. But one after the other, these prophetic statements have become reality. The prophet Isaiah, in his writing of the coming of the Messiah (7:14) was bold enough to indicate that the Messiah was to be born of a Virgin. The idea was not acceptable to man's thinking. It was a biological impossibility. Yet our beautiful Christmas story and the whole program of God's plan of salvation for mankind is based upon the fulfillment of this prophecy. Prophecied some seven or eight hundred years before the time of the birth, the prophecy, nevertheless, saw its fulfillment in Bethlehem when Jesus was born.

And, speaking of Bethlehem—how did the prophet Micah (5:2) know long years—even centuries—before the wonderful event, that Jesus would be born in the insignificant little village of Bethlehem?

These are only a few of the many such statements that are called to our attention by the Word of God, today, in a continuous effort to reach men for God, by the process of preaching from the printed page.

V. THE BIBLE, IF MAN-MADE, WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPROVED UPON.

Man always improves upon his work—his inventions. The cars we are driving today have faint resemblance to those of forty or fifty years ago. The methods that man has devised for illumination, for transportation, for communication are all so different from their early characteristics that the newer methods seem hardly to have any relationship with their predecessors.

If this is true of man's work, in general, and it is, whether in the field of art, or science, or medicine, or invention and industry, why should there not be improvement in man's writing of the Bible, if the Bible was man's production? The Bible was not man's production; his hand wrote it, but only under divine guidance and inspiration, and it is therefore God's production. And, being God's, man is not able to make any improvement upon it. It is ours to accept, to believe, to follow, and to use in winning others to Christ.

VI. FINALLY, THE BIBLE IS A MIRACULOUS UNITY.

With many different writers, over a period of many centuries, the Bible still contains a unity of purpose and plan. There are no conflicts or divergent points of view in this great Book. While the writers never saw each other, they wrote as if they had outlined, together, their messages. Although they lived in different countries and spoke different languages, and their lives covered different ages of history—yet, their writings dovetail, and the omission of any of the individual parts would make the whole incomplete.

In industry, parts for certain types of machinery are made in one section of the country, other parts in another area, and still others in a third place. But because of good planning, when the parts are assembled in an entirely new area, the parts, placed in their proper relationships become an efficient piece of machinery, or a high-powered motor car. The men who made the parts are not acquainted with each other, and know little or nothing about the other men's work. Likewise, the men who assemble these parts are unacquainted with the parts makers, and likely know nothing about the process of making the items which they assemble. Yet, somewhere back the line, before the manufacturing began, someone was responsible for the means whereby the manufacturing and assembling should make a finished product.

In the case of the Bible, God is the Master Mind. It is through His arrangement that the Bible has come into being. God has engineered the thinking and the planning of the men whose hands He has guided in the writing of His Word.

It is true that He might have chosen another way, but He didn't. And the method that He has chosen is plain. His Word holds the answers that we need for our lives. Let us read the Word regularly and learn from it what God would have us to do. It is through its pages, that Christ preaches to us, today.

New Lebanon, Ohio.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

Make checks payable to The Brethren Publishing Company, and address The Brethren Publishing Company, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

The 1956 Publication Day Offering

AGAIN THE TIME HAS COME for the lifting of the Annual offering for the support of Brethren Publications. In this issue of **The Brethren Evangelist,** we are endeavoring to present the needs of your Publishing Company for 1956.

We wish to thank, sincerely, each of you for your generous support this past year.

By your liberal response to this year's offering, your Publication Board will be able to plan and to bring into effect an increasingly better and ever more serviceable Brethren literature.

Realizing that the work and progress of a Denomination revolves around its printed literature, we present to you your Publication needs for this year.

We encourage you to read the pages of this **Evangelist;** also to obtain from your pastor, or in a forthcoming church service, a copy of the special folder which we have printed, telling of the specific needs of your Publishing Company.

May you prayerfully and joyously give of your fullest stewardship to this offering that your joy might be full and your cup of blessing might overflow.—W. S. B.

Protect Your Investment

TWO YEARS AGO, we were very happy to announce that your Publishing Company, which had been in debt for so many years, had reached that happy state of being **"DEBT FREE."** We were very happy about it. From days when it was necessary to borrow money to meet the pay-roll; when we had no building of our own; when we printed on worn-out, out-dated and slow, hand-fed machinery, to the present debt-free status, was a long, uphill road.

IT DID NOT JUST HAPPEN! Many were the hours of prayer, of sacrifice, and of work, which brought about the change from the above to the present condition.

IT DID NOT JUST HAPPEN! First there was the vision, planning and erection of the present fine publishing house in the early 40's. Then came an equipment modernization program which saw the change from handfed machinery to modern, automatic presses, folder, cutter, and a new Intertype typesetting machine. As we mentioned above, it was a long, up-hill road. But the top was reached, when, in January 1954 the last mortgage dollar on the building was paid off, and your Publishing Company belonged to you 100%, debt-free, and without any obligations on stock or material.

IT'S EASY TO FORGET CONTINUING NEEDS when one is out of debt. But that is where we are right now. A garden that has been well watered, well weeded and cultivated, looks nice and is a joy to its keeper. But a garden whose continuing needs are neglected will soon show the signs of neglect and ruin.

Likewise with your Publishing Company. Because we are "debt-free," the Brethren cannot neglect the protection of their investment. Machinery which is in daily use eventually reaches a point where it needs repairs or replacement. Many Brethren can remember the days when the Publishing Company found it necessary to appeal to the Denomination for special gifts for machinery and equipment. This has not been necessary since 1948 as we have been able, through your continued faithfulness in the Publication Day offering, and through a better financial status of the Company, to purchase needed equipment from current funds.

No one would want us to revert back to the former (then necessary) method of special appeals for equipment. Nor would we of the Publishing Company want to do that. Thus, through a continued and increased faithfulness on your part in this year's Publication Day offering, you will be helping to protect the investment already made in your Publishing Company.

You will be helping us to further stabilize the Company in meeting current increased production costs and in preparing for the eventual certain day when equipment on which your Church literature is being printed today will need major replacement. IT IS AS CERTAIN as it is for any piece of machinery you may have in your home, shop, farm. **GIVE TODAY TO GUARD AGAINST THAT DAY.**

our new Adult Quarterly --- and one man's testimony

A YEAR AGO IN OCTOBER, The Brethren Publishing Company launched its first venture in an improved system of Brethren Quarterlies by introducing to the Brethren a new and enlarged Bible Class Quarterly.

From a former 48-page opus, to a 68 page work, including cover, this Quarterly was presented to the Brethren in the October-December 1954 issue. Our faith in the Brethren, and our belief that the Brethren desired more materials for lesson preparation and class discussion, has been vindicated.

The response to the six quarters since its introduction has been gratifying. Except in a few cases, Quarterly orders have increased.

As you no doubt know, this Quarterly is being produced jointly by the Brethren Publishing Company and the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church, in the form of a subsidy from the Association. The first year, this amounted to $900.00. This year, it is $600.00. The subsidy is scheduled to be reduced proportionately each year as your increased patronage of the Quarterly is reflected in increased sales thereof by the Publishing Company. At this point we would like to express our appreciation to the National Sunday School Association for their assistance and interest in producing this enlarged and more helpful Bible Class Quarterly for Brethren adults.

Many have been the comments which have come to us about the new Bible Class Quarterly. We wish we would have room to print them all. We do want to take the space, though, and your time, right now to pass on to you the testimony of one man about the Quarterly.

No less a personage in the Brethren Church than the President of the Pennsylvania District Laymen's Organization, **JOHN J. GOLBY**, from our Third Church in Johnstown, has the following to say:

"Just a word of commendation for our Brethren Sunday School Quarterly, and proof that others than our own Denomination also think it a very fine Quarterly all around.

"Every quarter, a E. U. B. friend of mine gets a current Quarterly from me and praises it highly. This quarter I again gave him a Quarterly and the next day he told me that on his way home he had accidentally lost it in the neighborhood grocery store. The next day he stopped in to inquire about it and the groceryman said, 'Yes, you did leave it here but if you can obtain another one, I would greatly appreciate your letting me keep this one. This is the finest Sunday School Quarterly I've ever got hold of.' My friend said he thought it could be arranged; and it was."

This is the kind of testimony we are receiving right along, and, as noted in friend Golby's comment, by those outside the Brethren Denomination.

Of course, we know that a Quarterly is no better, no richer than its writers. In this, we feel we are very fortunate, for the three Adult Bible Class Quarterly writers are men who know their subjects and likewise are in touch with God in such a way that their writings speak of the deeper spiritual things of the Word.

The Editor, in preparing the Quarterly by reading the material at least three, and sometimes four times (or more), finds increased joy and spiritual nourishment through the writings of these Brethren. As we read we are conscious of the fact that what we are learning will also be soul "food" for Brethren Adult Bible Classes each Sunday. (Though absorption of the content of the writings is incidental to our reading of the copy, the proofs, and in editing, it nevertheless does leave us with a great sense of satisfaction that the Brethren are getting the type and quality of lesson material which they are in this Quarterly.)

DR. JOHN F. LOCKE, who is pastor of our Mt. Olive and Bethlehem Brethren Churches in Virginia, and who lives in Maurertown, Virginia, is the longest term writer for this Quarterly. Dr. Locke, who began his writings for the Bible Class Quarterly with the January-March issue in the year 1941, has continued faithfully through the years, writing for the department known as **"Practical Applications."**

REV. SMITH F. ROSE, who is pastor of our Brighton, Indiana, Brethren Church, of Howe, Indiana, R. D. 2, and who is President of the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church, is the writer of our **"Verse by Verse"** comments of the Quarterly. Brother Rose began his service with the Quarterly with the January-March 1952 issue.

REV. HENRY BATES, pastor of our Church at North Manchester, Indiana, is the newest member of our Bible Class Writer's Staff, having begun his work with the Quarterly with the September-December 1954 issue—at the time of the enlarging of the Quarterly. Brother Bates writes the **"Lesson Background"** comments.

These three writers, having a total of 21 years of service, receive no financial remuneration for their service, outside of a small "appreciation" gift each year.

This BRETHREN ADULT BIBLE CLASS QUARTERLY is another service of your Brethren Publishing Company, using your investment to return to you a better Brethren literature at lowest possible cost. YOUR SUPPORT OF THE 1956 PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING THIS MONTH will enable us to continue this service to you.

our most recent achievement --- The New, Enlarged Quarterly for Brethren Youth

NEWEST OF THE SERVICES being rendered to the Brethren Church by the Brethren Publishing Company is the New Youth Quarterly for Brethren Young People.

This new quarterly has been taking shape for about a year, now, and the first edition thereof is already in the hands of Brethren Young People.

If you have not yet seen this new work, look around your church, find a copy, and look through it. We believe you will like what you find. If you do not find a copy, that is, if your Sunday School is not using it, then write us for a sample copy.

This new Youth Quarterly, which we have increased in size to that of the Adult Bible Class Quarterly, is designed for two age groups of young people—Seniors and Intermediates. We were faced with the prospects of producing two Quarterlies for our young people, or of combining the two age levels in the same quarterly. For a number of reasons, it was decided to produce a combined Quarterly.

Here is how it works. Each lesson is given five pages of treatment. One page for texts and Bible readings. One page for general Verse by Verse discussion. The remaining three pages are divided equally between discussion materials for the Intermediates and for the Senior young people.

Both teachers and scholars will find sufficient materials for lesson study and class discussion in the new Quarterly, "Bible Studies for Brethren Youth." Another service of your Brethren Publishing Company.

Writers for the new Quarterly are well known to the Brethren. "Verse by Verse" discussion is written by MISS MARGARET E. LOWERY, who is our Brethren Home Missionary at Krypton, Kentucky. **Intermediate** writers are MISS MARJORIE LONG, of Orrville, Ohio, who is known to Brethren Youth Crusaders as a writer of their Sunday evening worship programs which have appeared in the Brethren Youth Crusader's Program Booklet; and MRS. ROBERT HOFFMAN, wife of the pastor of the Smithville, Ohio, Brethren Church. **Senior** writers include two more minister's wives, MRS. JAMES E. AULT, wife of the pastor of the Hagerstown, Maryland, Brethren Church; and MRS. ROBERT KEPLINGER, wife of our Canton, Ohio, pastor. The third Senior writer is REV. ALVIN H. GRUMBLING, pastor of our Bryan, Ohio, Brethren Church.

The Youth Quarterly is under the Editorship of REV. CLARENCE S. FAIRBANKS, who is the pastor of the Park Street Brethren Church in Ashland, Ohio.

This new Quarterly, which we sincerely believe will more nearly meet the needs of Brethren young people, more so than could the old Youth Quarterly because of its limited scope and size, comes to you at less than the cost of producing it, as a service of your Brethren Publishing Company. As we have so often pointed out, we are in business to produce for the Brethren Church a literature which will meet the needs of the Church. Your increased use of this new Youth Quarterly, and your continued liberal giving in the Annual Publication Day Offering, will enable us to continue our long range program of producing a **Better Brethren Literature for a Better Brethren Church.**

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

JANUARY 15, 1956

Goal—Not less than $5,000.00

The cost of your EVANGELIST

A QUESTION which has often been raised, as the Editor has been out visiting among the Conferences, has been as to what it actually costs to print the **Evangelist**. Recognizing that the subscription price has been kept at the very low price of $1.50 per year, we have emphasized the fact that the difference in cost must be made up through the Publication Day offering, and from profits from commercial job work done in our shop.

Thus the above question has often been raised, and up to now, no cost analysis was available, so we were unable to provide a satisfactory answer. **(It might be well to point out that the objective of the Publication Board is not to make a "profit" on the church literature, but rather to render a service of getting the literature of the Church to the members, making up the deficit through your gifts in the Publication Day offering, and through commercial job work done in our shop.)** This is further evidenced when you realize that the present subscription price of the **Evangelist** ($1.50 per year) was established in 1941, WHEN IT WAS ACTUALLY REDUCED FROM $2.00 per year. The Board has tenaciously held to this $1.50 a year price, in spite of increase after increase in costs of labor, materials and paper!

Now, to answer your question, Brethren. At the request of the Editor, our Business Manager has figured the cost of printing the **Evangelist** each week, including cost of paper, ink, composition (setting type), paging, lock-up, printing, folding, trimming, addressing and mailing.

The figure arrived at is the **minimum cost** of materials and labor from the time the copy is taken to the typesetter until it arrives at your home. **It does not include the costs of engravings, etc., nor the time of the editorial and proof reading work!**

If the shop time and cost of materials were used as a basis of setting the subscription price of **The Brethren Evangelist,** it would cost you **$4.50 per year** instead of the present $1.50. This is basically three times the present price.

Breaking it down another way, the subscription price covers about one-third of the cost of printing your church paper. If the entire Publication Day offering could be figured to apply to the cost of the **Evangelist**, it would cover about another third, with the remaining third coming from job work.

The Editor would be the last to suggest or even hint that the Brethren should approximate the cost of the **Evangelist** through a big subscription price raise, but because this is your Publishing Company, and because many of you asked for this information, we are passing it on to you. All the more reason why the Brethren must continue to give liberally for the support of the Publication Day offering.

The same situation exists in relation to our Quarterlies. From the Editor's desk we see much for which the Brethren Church should be eternally grateful regarding their Church literature. In order to get your literature out to you, the Board has consistently held down the prices; the Company has "enjoyed" some good years, and has been able to meet astronomically increased costs through a favorable position in the community regarding job work. Installation of time saving, automatic machinery has helped your Publishing Company to produce more printing in the same number of hours, thereby making it possible to take on more job work to help meet the increased costs of your church literature. **Another service of your Publishing Company to the Brethren.**

TO CONTINUE TO RENDER TO THE BRETHREN CHURCH THE SERVICE ON BRETHREN LITERATURE DESIRED, WE MUST RECEIVE A PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING OF NOT LESS THAN $5,000.00! FAITHFUL STEWARDS WILL BE FAITHFULLY REWARDED

OUR NEEDS THIS YEAR:

1. AN AUTOMATIC STITCHER

One of the greatest needs this year is an automatic gatherer and stitcher to replace the old, worn-out hand fed model we have been using.

The need for this is greater than it has ever been simply because the demand upon stitcher facilities has greatly increased.

As you know, we have increased the size of the Adult and Youth Quarterlies. Whereas the former adult Quarterly for instance, required only one gathering operation, the new one requires three, and, with increased circulation, this has sky-rocketed the amount of labor required to assemble the Quarterly, since all of our "gathering" up to this time has been done by hand. The special issues of the **Evangelist** also require "gathering" which was not required before.

A new, automatic gatherer and stitcher will cost approximately $2500.00.

2. REVAMPING OF THE HEATING SYSTEM

Another great need has been apparent for some years, and must be taken care of at this time and that is the revamping of the heating system in the Publishing Company building. To prevent overheating and underheating which occurs under the present system, a new system of controls, and additional radiation in the shop, is needed. This will make for economies in operation and for more comfortable working conditions throughout the shop and offices.

Cost of this necessary improvement is about $1500.00. The work is scheduled to be done soon, and may even be in progress when you read this.

3. FUNDS TO COVER INCREASED MATERIAL AND LABOR COSTS

Elsewhere, and in **The Brethren Evangelist** for January 7th, we have shown you something of the costs of producing your Church literature. Costs will be even higher this year, as we have taken on two new employees, and all material costs have gone up.

Send your offerings to:

The Brethren Publishing Company
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio

Favorite Sermons by Brethren Pastors

Rev. R. K. Higgins

THE FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE

A radio meditation used on "The Brethren Voice," regular weekly broadcast from station W T R C, Elkhart, Indiana, sponsored by The Brethren Church, 3:30-3:45 each Wednesday. Rev. R. K. Higgins, pastor.

VACATION TIME to a pastor is always a very wonderful time, and usually leaves some very definite impressions upon a relaxed mind. I think the one condition that created new thoughts to me as I returned from my vacation was that so many people—in all walks of life—seem so happy living in sort of a Second Hand Way. That is, they seemingly, have no First Hand Experience with the real vital issues of Life. We are made to think of Job's words in the 42nd chapter of his Old Testament book, when he said, "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the Ear, but now my eyes see thee." For this First Hand Experience seems to have evaded so many people in our day.

There is a story of a visitor to the Grand Canyon who looked down into the awesome depths and expressed his amazement by saying, "Wouldn't this be marvelous done in Technicolor?" You see, somehow, we have been conditioned to prefer Second hand viewing to a First Hand Experience. This tendency of living at Second Hand is hard to resist, for it has a constant pressure upon all of us. So many of the very conditions of Life tend to remove us from First Hand Experiences. H. G. Wells once said, "Some people go through life, fudging, evading and side stepping until their first contact with ultimate reality is when they come face to face with Death." Certainly that is true of so many of our generation.

We must realize that for many of our people, life in our great metropolitan areas, cannot fail to produce a somewhat distorted view of life. We read of youngsters being taken on their first trip to the country by Fresh Air Agencies, and such, and we are astonished at some of the impressions created by their first sight of the Animal World. The story is told of one boy who said, "I wish our Milk Man kept a cow." And another was amazed to find that apples weren't born in the pushcart from whence they were sold. A lack of First Hand Experience had created a distorted view of their world, you see.

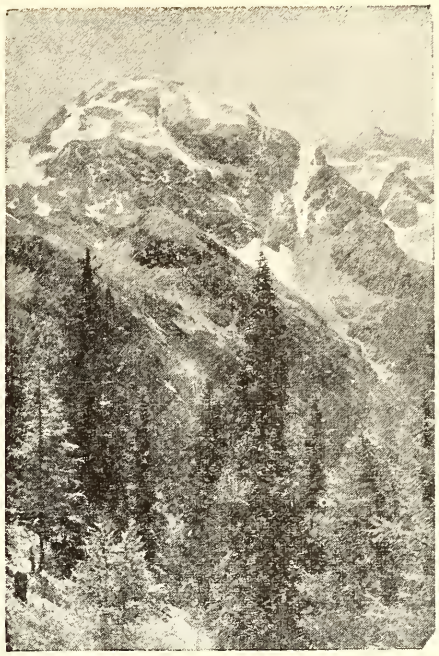
We meet the same tendency among our adults. Take our reading for example. There are vast numbers of people whose whole mental life is served by digests of one sort or another. Everything they take in has already been chewed, something like the life of a cow, chewing something already chewed. We have all been taken in by this philosophy. We read the shorter articles in "Readers Digest," or the shorter digests, such as "Quick," or perhaps a book made up of reviews of current longer writings. In fact we live sort of a Pre-digested Life. Not ever knowing the rich pleasure of meeting a full account in the original Book—And Milton called Good Books, "The Precious Life Blood of Great Spirits." The tragedy of it all is this: Second Hand Living produces Second rate people.

And this is found all too true in the realm of religion, for certainly it is here that Job found the importance of a First Hand Experience. For it is only that which gives Joy and Power to the Christian. Dr. Saddler, who is one of our most noted Psychiatrists, has written this, "I would like to make this recommendation: 'That we call a halt to this business of seeking a new religion from the pages of psychology, that we call a halt to the practice of taking the Heart out of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and peddling it as a Commercial Mental cure, and that we put forth every effort to call men back to Christ's long neglected words by which men found life in days past. Such words, as, "Come unto Me all Ye who are Weary and Heavy Laden, & I will give you rest." "Cast all your Care upon Him for He careth for you."

There are many tried and tested ways of getting religion First Hand. Have you tried Prayer? For True Prayer makes for each of us a very present reality of God, with whom we personally can communicate. Someone has well said, "That the decline of any Institution or Individual is in direct ratio to the distance which they stray from the source of the experience from which it first grew." This is all too true of our lives. The real glory of religion comes not from the Afterglow of things many years past, but in our immediate, direct encounter with God. Such an encounter invariably leads to action. Prayer in its highest attainment prompts action. Try it some time. Make an Act of Faith. Try out in action some of Jesus' wonderful promises, and then you will experience this First Hand Religion.

I suppose the most tragic mistake of so many Church people today is the refusal to face the fact that Christianity leads us along the Way of the Cross. It was necessary for Jesus to ask one day of His Disciples, "Can Ye Drink of the Cup that I Drink?" And too often in our day, we hear the same quick answer, "Yes, I Can"—without ever considering the real cost of sacrificial Christian living. Or else we see so many sidestep the issue entirely. Perhaps we Christians are guilty of some mistakes in creating this condition.

I sincerely believe that we have all tended to fit the Gospel of Jesus Christ into a middle class set of values, or rather to make it fit our standard of living. Now this is not the True way of the Gospel at all. It has always been very discouraging to me to see so many interpreting ordinary honesty, decency, generosity, and friendliness, as the best example of Christian Living.



These virtues are all very fine . . . and certainly we look upon them as the inevitable result of Christianity's influence. But they are not the First result of the Gospel experience. If we think so, then we seek to domesticate Christianity—to harness it to a carriage of our own making. And we have been somewhat successful in making religion respectable and attractive in a matter of fact sort of way. But the Gospel that Jesus taught was a dangerous experience. It separated men from the world, and often from his family and friends. A First Hand Experience did something to the individual and he became forever a New Creation. Isn't it sad that so many are willing to be just like every one else, and never experience this vigorous New Life in Christ Jesus?

Too often we have thought that if only enough people would join our Church,—if only enough people would live up to the teachings of His Gospel; then the World could purge itself of War, Sin, and Evil. Then we would approach the Kingdom of God among Men. If only enough of our neighbors would become decent, respectable, Church-going citizens like us, then we would soon see the end of this present age of darkness. But truly, friends, there isn't any suggestion of this in the Gospels—for the Gospel of Christ is no such easy going Philosophy. We must understand that there is in Jesus a sense of deep enmity between Himself and the World." The Philosophy that Jesus would ever be accommodated to the

Secular World is not a New Testament idea. Jesus constantly held up before His followers the choice between Himself and the World. He was always seeking to impress them that it was impossible to embrace both. But oh how many are living in that condition today, brought on by the willingness to live with this Second Hand Experience of Faith.

Just one other idea that has encouraged this Second Hand experience of Faith. That is the prevalent teaching that Evil Men were responsible for the Crucifixion of our Lord. We rather like to believe that and take much delight in thinking that things would have been different if we would have been there. How wrong we are. For really it was the good and respected citizens of Jerusalem and Judea who were responsible for that Day on Calvary. Oh, we cannot say that all who took part in the Act were above reproach; of course they weren't. But I want you to see this, that the Crucifixion was essentially the work of respectable, law abiding people. And we have countless thousands who take pride in that type of life today. That is, not realizing that they can be that kind of people—honest and respectable, and still be a part of the forces which block the Love of God among men. For if we would Drink of the Cup which Jesus drank, then we would have such a sensitiveness to human need that our pain would no longer allow us to be the honest, respectable, indifferent, lethargic people we have grown to be. Job said, "I had heard of thee with mine Ear . . . but now I see thee with mine Eye." And Faith filled his heart anew.

Then I want you to remember . . . that Christianity will remain only a Beautiful idea until it is translated into action by the hands of men. They may be Praying Hands, they may be soothing Hands . . . they may be Working Hands, but they are all the result of that First Hand Experience of Faith. The Hymn writer wrote, "Take My hands and let them move—At the impulse of Thy Love." Those would be the Hands of one activated by a First Hand Experience with his Lord. For such hands cannot remain idle, but will be busy in doing the Lord's Will for them. How about you today? Are you content with only a Second Hand Experience of Faith? Why not look for Him where He may be found—in the House of Worship on the Lord's Day? Surely there's a task for you. One that will bring Joy to your soul, anl peace to your heart.

Elkhart, Indiana.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

PURPOSE ROOTED IN RELIGION

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank." Daniel 1:8.

DETERMINED to make his life count, Daniel was firm in keeping himself free from all harmful influences. His religious training had given him a clear idea of the things that break down one's brain, body and character instead of building them up. And so when liquor was set before him, he said, "No"—politely, but positively.

Liquor is a liability, and not an asset. History verifies this fact, as well as the efficiency experts, the scientists, the medical profession; and Holy Writ BRANDS it thus for all time.

Above all, liquor is a liability to spiritual life. No man can indulge in strong drink and develop a spiritual life. I am well aware that there are records of men—even ministers—who have used liquor and have yet become Bible exegetes, scholars, sermonizers; but their example has mightily offset their influence among men, socially. It is the same with the use of tobacco. The addict is fully conscious that he is going against the judgment of the bulk of his fellow-men, and that knowledge makes him shy away from his fellow-men, and seek to enjoy his weakness by himself. And the very fact of the disapproval of his fellows does not tend to strengthen his confidence in his own powers of resistance to evil.

One does not have to drink because others do. And if one's friends do not respect him enough to refrain from tempting him to indulge in harmful practices, one had better hunt some new friends. But generally, even worldlings will respect one's principles, even though they themselves are too weak to break an evil habit. One can decline to take liquor as he would decline tea or coffee without offense to good social custom. We must not forget that we need to know HOW to say "No" as well as WHEN to say "No."

Daniel's strong purpose was rooted in religion. And purposes rooted in religion will hold one true to the principles of right, truth and righteousness. And the reason that so many folks are not able to be true to the faith is that their purposes are not rooted deep in the principles and precepts of God's Word.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

A LETTER FROM THE SHANKS

)ear Clayton and Ida: November 21, 1955

I am quite tired, but since our out-going mail leaves he station very early in the morning, I'll write to you onight.

During the past four days I have sweated off 10 of the 0 pounds which A. M. M. O. advised me to lose. Early Friday morning (6:30) saw me catching a lorry (two-on Ford truck) from Waka enroute to Yola for a track neet. The boys from Waka competed with boys from hree other schools. I rode the entire distance (140 miles ne way) in the back of the lorry, and more dust I've ever eaten! In fact, I'm still blowing some from my ose. Upon arriving at Yola we discovered it was too ate to cross the river by the ferry (had had a broken pring on the way); so we canoed across, after dipping he water from the leaking canoes.

The boys told us they knew the way to the school, and after about an hour of walking (some running) we finally reached the location of the track meet which had already begun. Of course our boys were already played out, but hey entered the events anyway. They consisted of high ump, broad jump, pole vault, 100-yard dash, 440 relay, 220 relay, 880 relay, ½ mile, 1 mile and shot put. Waka didn't do so badly; they came in fourth in a four-way neet. We were spotted 10 points for walking 4 miles from the river in record time. Fortunately we were able o hitch a ride back to the river and about 9 P. M. we boarded the lorry for home and more dust. Saturday was spent recuperating and opening some boxes from home.

A Notable Day

Sunday, November 20, will be a day long remembered for the Shanks. The usual services of the morning were held, but with some added attractions (not a very good word). During church service we sang some familiar Christmas carols—surely made us feel very much at home. The morning worship service here at Marama is very similar to the Brethren service in the States. Since District Meeting will be held here the first week of December, some time was taken discussing plans for its preparation. District meeting is the gathering together of African delegates from all the C. B. M. stations plus missionary representatives from each station.

After the morning message, which was well given, about 60 people took the covenant. Prior to taking the covenant this group spent about 3 months (on Saturday mornings) in Bible study. They will continue this for about two years before the rite of baptism is administered. This was indeed impressive, for here was a group of people making their decisions to become Christians and to live according to the Christian principles as set forth in the New Testament.

Well, the benediction was given, but this did not conclude the service. There was still an even more serious portion of the service to perform—a baptism. The entire congregation proceeded from the church to a nearby dam where the baptism was held. This was very beautiful and impressive.

The Baptism

Appropriate hymns were sung; prayers were given and the acting pastor (an ordained African) in very fitting remarks explained the value and need of baptism as set forth in the New Testament. Suitable scripture passages were read. The candidates were then instructed to kneel in the water to make immersion easier.

I had the privilege of assisting with the baptism. There were three of us: Brother Swank, Modu (an African), and I. We baptized three at a time. The total number was about forty. These were people who had lived up to the covenant which they had previously taken. They were also accepted for baptism by the board of deacons. One thing that impressed me particularly—after each group of three were baptized, we had the laying on of hands in the water. Then as they went from the water and another group came down to the water, the congregation sang the chorus of the hymn, "O Happy Day." At the completion of the baptism, closing remarks and prayer were made by the pastor. To be sure, we went home to a very late Sunday dinner (2:30), but we had been spiritually fed so adequately that physical hunger seemed like such a minor detail. This was our first such experience here in Nigeria, but we shall remember it for years to come. We only wish that all the Brethren could have been here to witness it too.

Will you all include those who took the covenant and those who were baptized in your prayer list—also those who are laboring with them for the enlargement of God's Kingdom?

A busy day

Today was another busy day. The men of the station—Swank, Royer and Shank, visited a village about 15 miles away. Twelve of the miles were via jeep; the remaining three via foot. (I'll be stiff for a month.) We visited the village where there is a possibility of beginning a C. R. I. (Class in religious instruction) Plans were made, and we hope that in the future they will materialize. While at the village we walked an additional 5 miles (it seemed like 10) looking for fish and geese. We saw both, but it was mainly a wild-goose chase. I can't swim well enough to catch fish, and I can't even get off the ground, let alone trying to fly with the geese. We did, however, see the native women fishing—they caught some too.

They used circular nets and waded the stream, occasionally catching a fish. Having enough of this we returned to the jeep. While trekking through the "bush" we saw some baboons, but our aim was too poor—yes, we missed all of them. Our loot for the day was 6 tired legs, plus additional sore muscles, one 4-foot python and a large catfish. (The snake and fish were caught by the women). I think tomorrow I shall rest.

Sincerely, Your Missionary, Doc Shank.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

WILL A MAN ROB GOD?

It shames me yet when I recall
A thing I did when I was small.

My father gave us each three bright
New cents to take to Sunday school.
My sister and I put in one
Apiece, and then we made a pool,
Like guilty financiers gone mad,
Of the remaining stolen four,
And next day, furtively, like thieves
We spent them at the candy store.

Four times we did this, and four times
I waited for God's wrath to fall
Upon my sinful head. Somehow
The candy was not sweet at all;
But still God did not speak, and still
The very skies were mute. And so—
He seemed so busy—I so small—
I thought perhaps He did not know

Or even did not care. And then
One day I heard the words, "And will
A man rob God?" They crashed upon
My ears and I remember still
The guilt and horror which I felt.
I knew what God had done for me,
I knew for whom His Son had died
That dreadful day on Calvary.

SPIRIT-FILLED CHRISTIANITY places one's property into the Lord's hands (Matt. 6:25-34). The tithe began before the Mosaic Law (Gen. 14:17-20). This was before there was a Hebrew nation. Abraham gave tithes to Melchizedek who was a type of Christ (Heb. 7:1-6, 21, 22). God does not ask any less love, faith, and cheerful giving of a New Testament Christian (1 Cor. 16:2) than from a Jew under the law (Mal. 3:10). Not to tithe is to rob God not only of the tithe but also the offering which is that given beyond the tithe (Mal. 3:8, 9). There is no promise of God in the Bible where He will bless the bringing of less than 10 per cent of one's income into His services. It is always somewhere between 10 and 100 per cent!

" . . . as My child, dost thou not owe
To Me more than this tiny tithe?
I would possess all that is thine,
Thy tenderest love, the deepest throb
Of every heart-beat should be Mine,
Give Me each second of thy time,
Give Me thy little talent, see
How I will add to it if thou
Wilt dedicate it unto Me.

"Give me that inmost self of thine,
Thy fresh young strength and vigor, too,
Thy utter loyalty, thy trust,
Then wait to see what I will do.
And, WILL a man rob God? Ah, child,
Thou wert not only robbing Me,
But robbing thy poor starveling self
Of all that I would give to thee."

—Martha Snell Nicholson.

God loves a hilarious giver (2 Cor. 9:7). Barnabas gave largely (Acts 4:36, 37). A widow gave all (Luke 21:1-4). Zealous New Testament Christians often gave all (Acts 2:44, 45).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for January 15, 1956

JESUS CALLS FOR REPENTANCE

Lesson: Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

GOD IS IMMUTABLE—unchangeable. His Word declares it. "For I am the LORD, I change not" (Mal 3:6); "Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail" (Heb. 1:12). Because this is so, His demand for righteousness and holiness has not changed. God has always demanded REPENTANCE of sinful people. The passing years and changing times have not altered this. Those who would long for fellowship with God, and right standing before the Almighty, must REPENT.

REPENTANCE signifies a change of one's mind or purpose. A change of mind which involves both turning to God, and turning from sin.

Jesus introduced this subject in today's lesson when some "told Him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices." How quick we are to Judge our fellowmen, but oh so slow to condemn ourselves. Whenever calamity falls upon our friends or neighbors we immediately jump to the conclusion they are suffering punishment as a result of sin. However, whenever we undergo a siege of affliction or suffering we call it "the suffering and reproach of the righteous!"

Those who spake of the Galileans were rebuked by Jesus with these words: "Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish."

In essence, Jesus said to them: 1. You are sinners as much as they. 2. You must repent yourselves, or suffer the consequence—you will "perish." Thus Jesus spoke of the **Universal Sinfulness of Man**, necessitating the **Universal Need of Repentance**, in order to escape the **Universal Judgment for Sin.**

Next in our lesson we find Christ setting forth the Parable of the Barren Fig Tree. From the context it is evi

dent that Jesus was stressing the need for bearing fruit —the fruit of righteousness, holiness, obedience, reverence, and love. The story was meant to serve as a warning to the Nation of Israel, that, unless she changed her ways, repented of her sin, and began to produce fruit for the glory of God, she would suffer Divine Judgment from the hand of God.

God is still looking for fruit among His people.

"The Master is seeking a harvest
In lives He's redeemed by His blood;
He seeks for the fruit of the Spirit,
And works that will glorify God.

Nothing but leaves for the Master,
Oh, how His loving heart grieves,
When instead of the fruit He is seeking,
We offer Him nothing but leaves."

—Mrs. H. S. Lehman.

The Jewish Nation would not heed the warning of Jesus their Messiah. Realizing their backslidden condition, the Master laments over the Holy City of Jerusalem: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem . . . how often would I have gathered thy children together . . . and ye yould not!"

Earnestly the Saviour had pleaded with His own people to repent of their sin and iniquity—but they would not. It was inevitable, therefore, that judgment fell. Because God "is longsufering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance," He gave them opportunity to come to Him. For 40 years He waited. Then came 70 A. D. Titus, the Roman Emperor, marched into Jerusalem—that very city over which Jesus had wept tears—and gave orders to the Roman soldiers to destroy it. Finally, he set fire to the city and left it in ruins!

Jesus had said: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

What a warning this ought to be to our own day and people! God help us to heed the warning of Scripture, for except we REPENT, we shall all likewise PERISH!

What's Doing in the Churches

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Rev. Beekley who is serving as a chaplain in the air force was our guest speaker in Sarasota on Sunday, December 5th. He brought us an encouraging and inspiring message. We are indeed fortunate that Sister Beekley and the two children are making their home in Sarasota while Brother Beekley is serving his Master and country in Korea. Her talent and experience in the Lord's vineyard makes her a very valuable helper in our work here. The Lord is continually blessing us by sending such wonderful people to worship with us. Members of the Church of the Brethren have been worshiping with us and according to their testimony they are receiving rich spiritual blessings and are very happy that there is a place of worship for Brethren in Sarasota.

Are we progressing? Come down to the Sunshine State and attend one of our services; then you decide. There were fifty-nine present for worship Sunday; seventeen in the mid-week service.

We know that many of you Brethren are praying for us and that God is answering your prayers. We need that place to worship which the Brethren can call their own. Can we encourage you to keep praying? Pray that the dream of a Brethren Church in Sarasota may soon be a reality.

O. C. Lemert.

REVIVAL MEETING AT CENTER CHAPEL

From November twenty-first to December 4th the writer was privileged to hold a two-week revival and evangelistic meeting in the Center Chapel Brethren Church. We share with Evangelist readers a few of the blessings and results of this wonderful experience.

The Center Chapel folks have worked hard during the past ten years or so, and have been truly blessed by the Lord. Under the leadership of their fine pastor, Brother Austin Gable, these brethren have not only completely remodeled their church sanctuary and added a Sunday School unit to the building, they have also made quite a name for the Brethren Church in this farming community. Although not a large church in terms of membership, Center Chapel is one of the very strongest and most active rural churches in the denomination.

The evangelist found the congregation and community well prepared for his coming, the pastor having done much of the "groundwork" before the meeting actually began. Attendances at the services were good, despite ball games, concerts, some bad weather, etc. Three or four evenings found the sanctuary almost filled with men and women and young people who had come to join in these meetings. An unusually large percentage of those who attended were present for every service or for all but one service. The writer greatly appreciated this loyalty. The pastor and evangelist spent several hours each day visiting folks in the area served by this church, and in every home we were very cordially received. We were especially encouraged by the reception which we received in the homes of a number of folks who had never made the good confession. As is usually true at such meetings, the pastor and evangelist were well taken care of at meal times by the good folks of the church—in fact, again as is usually the case—too well. The young people of the church should be commended for their loyalty to and interest in these services. Every evening found several pews filled with some of the young people of the congregation.

In bringing the messages from night to night the speaker attempted to accomplish two purposes—as led

(Continued on Page 19)

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

BUILDING WITH BRICKS IN '56

THE ONLY REAL SIMILARITY between bricks and the material which I am thinking of today is that they are both "solid." I'm thinking about the individual young people who make up the entire organization of Brethren Youth.

This morning as I walked along the sidewalk of Ashland I passed by the place on the corner of Main and Center where workers are now laying concrete blocks for the foundation of a new building which will soon grace the intersection in the middle of town. As I stopped to observe for a few moments my mind explored a vision of the new building. Here are these workers down in the damp clay beneath the surface of the ground carefully and skillfully laying the blocks one-by-one that will eventually support a grand new structure. Passersby in the future who have not been in our city for some time will remark: "O look at the beautiful new building!" seeing only the completed structure.

But right now the craftsmen are doing only one part of the job—not easy, perhaps, except for their skill; not dressed in business suits and white collars; not seeing the completed building. They only inspect each block as they lay it skillfully into place in the mortar on top of other blocks, joined at the ends to **other** blocks. Perhaps all they visualize now is a new wall—then four new walls! Then other skilled workmen will begin their jobs, until finally the glassworkers and cabinet makers and floor and interior experts finish the work. Exciting! It is if you visualize it this way. This is the way every building goes up. Brick buildings are erected in exactly the same way, except for the smaller type "blocks."

THE BLOCKS

Now the "blocks" to which we refer are the individual young people who get their direction from persons who know how to mould them, shape them and fit them into a larger program which in time will become a great, grand building. That is, if each worker does his part with these "blocks" and "mortars" them properly fitting them into the larger plan. We can see by this that the MOST IMPORTANT part of the program is getting to the individuals and working with them. A chipped or broken block cannot be used in a sturdy building; nor will a marred young life contribute much—if anything—to a larger youth program. The alert youth worker knows this and tries to turn out good units for his larger work. For he is not only the mason, but the one who has a strong hand in the manufacturing process too.

THE WALLS

We don't want to be fussy about this analogy, so we will say that the "walls" of our building are either the **local group**, or the **district organization**, whichever is the stronger—in most cases the former. We might say, too, that this means the individuals are joined together in making up the walls of BROTHERHOOD, SISTERHOOD, SIGNAL LIGHTS and BYC (Sunday evening fellowship). When these "walls" have been raised up and joined together we have something that begins to look like a building. That means that the leaders and workers of each organization must have the vision of the importance of his (her) work, and be determined to raise up his part of the structure with pride and determination. The projects (locally and nationally), must be of a nature that will not **detract** from the one big goal or project, but must be coordinated **with** it. Heretofore we have too much gone our **separate** ways, making such a fuss over the separate projects that the individuals have been led to believe that they are **competing** with another project—the NATIONAL BYC PROJECT—instead of contributing toward the over-all program. Vice versa, the national projects have been pushed to the detriment of the projects of Brotherhood, Sisterhood, etc. WE MUST GET TOGETHER! The national work is not an office for the leaders to come to in complaint that its work **interferes** with their goals—and we sincerely hope that if it does, we can do something to alter that situation—a sort of "complaint department." The national office ought to be thought of as a place where the organizations meet or cross or overlap their work under the suggestions and coordination of the national board. But many times the national board has hesitated because of the prejudiced and pre-conceived ideas and positive determination of some to "prevent interference by the national leaders." This is no personal complaint—for I personally have **no complaints**—nor is it a criticism; it is an **observation**! If you ask, "Then why doesn't somebody **do** something?" we reply, somebody **is**, and this article is for the purpose of clarifying the whole picture.

THE COMPLETE STRUCTURE

The complete building is not to be another missionary board, nor just a once-a-year-General Conference, nor just quarterly rallies in the districts. I believe that you already have the right picture of the completed building if you have followed thus far. However, there is much that can and must be done to aid local groups and encourage them which the national organization wants to do. But we must be set free from some of our financial restraints, brought about by various ideas: a drain on pocket books by other demands; misunderstanding of what Brethren Youth would do, given the chance; indifference as to the real (small) financial help needed to give the program an opportunity—**we need not more than fifty cents per Brethren per year!**

With proper help there could be printed many helpful publications for Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Signal Lights and Brethren Youth Crusaders—material which is constantly being sought by good and sincere youth leaders. Everything from "How to get along with youth," to "Your own need of salvation" ought to be in the hands of youth leaders and youth themselves. They will be reading **something—make it good for them!**

LOOKING AT THE NEW BUILDING, we see thousands of youth joined together, resting upon the **Chief Cornerstone**, where others can "come in and go out," doing continual service for the Lord!—C. S.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Brother E. J. Black notes that a fully automatic gas furnace and air conditioner has been installed in the parsonage.

The Intermediate Church held their first public service the evening of December 11th. The group meets regularly every Sunday morning.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. On Christmas Morning, instead of having the regular Sunday School and Church Services, a special "family service" in honor of the birthday of our Lord, was held from 10:00 until 11:00 A. M. The members were urged to come and sit in family groups.

COUNTY LINE, INDIANA. A note from Brother Herbert Gilmer says, "We were happy to have the Teegarden Brethren worship here last Sunday evening (December 4th). Baptismal service was held at 8:30 and was a very impressive service. We were happy to have Rev. Edgar Berkshire to baptize 2 from his congregation here."

Brother Gilmer, at the same service, baptized four and received them into the County Line Church.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Nine were baptized recently and received into membership in the Lanark Church.

LEON, IOWA. Brother Wilbur L. Thomas informs us that the work at Leon is coming along fine. He asks for the prayers of the Brotherhood for the work at Leon.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

SHARE

IT IS THE CALL all over the world today,—SHARE. The call is heard over our radios every day. SHARE! But do we hear it? We are told in God's Word to "Do good unto all men," and our sympathy is stirred by these many calls. It seems to me we could SHARE ourselves more with these many calls, if we gave from the heart. It is so easy to contribute a few coins or dollars and feel satisfied. Let us as Christian women add a prayer to our gifts.

Then there is the call to service. Are we willing to SHARE our talents, in the service of our Lord? Or are we selfish and think first of ourselves, instead of feeling here is my opportunity to serve my Lord? Rather let us say, by the grace of God I will do what I can.

Sharing from the heart brings joy and lifts burdens, and thus we fufill Christ's law of love.

Mrs. N. Victor Leatherman,
Waynesboro, Pa.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

(Continued from Page 17)

by the Holy Spirit—Revive the enthusiasm of those who were already followers of Jesus Christ; and to strive to lead the unsaved into a saving knowledge of Him. Among the visible results of these services were the first-time confessions of nine folks—several of them being young married people and the decision of six other young married folks to unite with the Center Chapel Church by letter or rebaptism. Several others were seriously considering these matters and we know that Brother Gable will continue to work with them and to encourage them in making their decisions for the Lord. A number of the brethren told us that the services had been a challenge to them, and we trust that being thus challenged will lead them into fuller service for the Master.

On several evenings fine delegations from other Brethren churches were in attendance. The Denver Brethren Church, the College Corner Brethren Church, and the North Manchester Brethren Church were represented during these two weeks. Special music was also in abundance, each evening finding at least one number of special music on the program. The writer takes this opportunity to express his thanks to all of the brethren who helped in any way with these services; and also to the folks at Center Chapel for the fine love offering which was given to him on the closing evening. May God's spirit continue to rest upon, and work within, this congregation and their leader.

Henry Bates.

Laid to Rest

WAGONER. Mrs. Arobelle Wagoner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simeon Morphew, died Nov. 14, 1955 at the age of 73 years. She united with the Brethren Church of Roann at about the time of her marriage to Mr. Jake Wagoner in 1911. Had been living in Knox, Indiana for about 30 years, but retained her membership in the Brethren Church throughout life. Husband preceded her in death in 1946. Survived by one sister, one son, and four granddaughters.

Thomas A. Shannon.

* * *

BOWMAN. Henry Bowman died at the age of 94 years on August 4th, 1955, at his home in San Bernandino, California. Was married November 11, 1891 to Miss Laura Carver, who died in 1918. To this union was born two sons, and two daughters. Both sons and one daughter also preceded him in death. He united with the Brethren Church of Roann at an early age and retained his membership in his home church until the time of death. Funeral services were held in California, and his ashes returned to Roann where a commital service was conducted by the pastor August 15, 1955.

Thomas A. Shannon.

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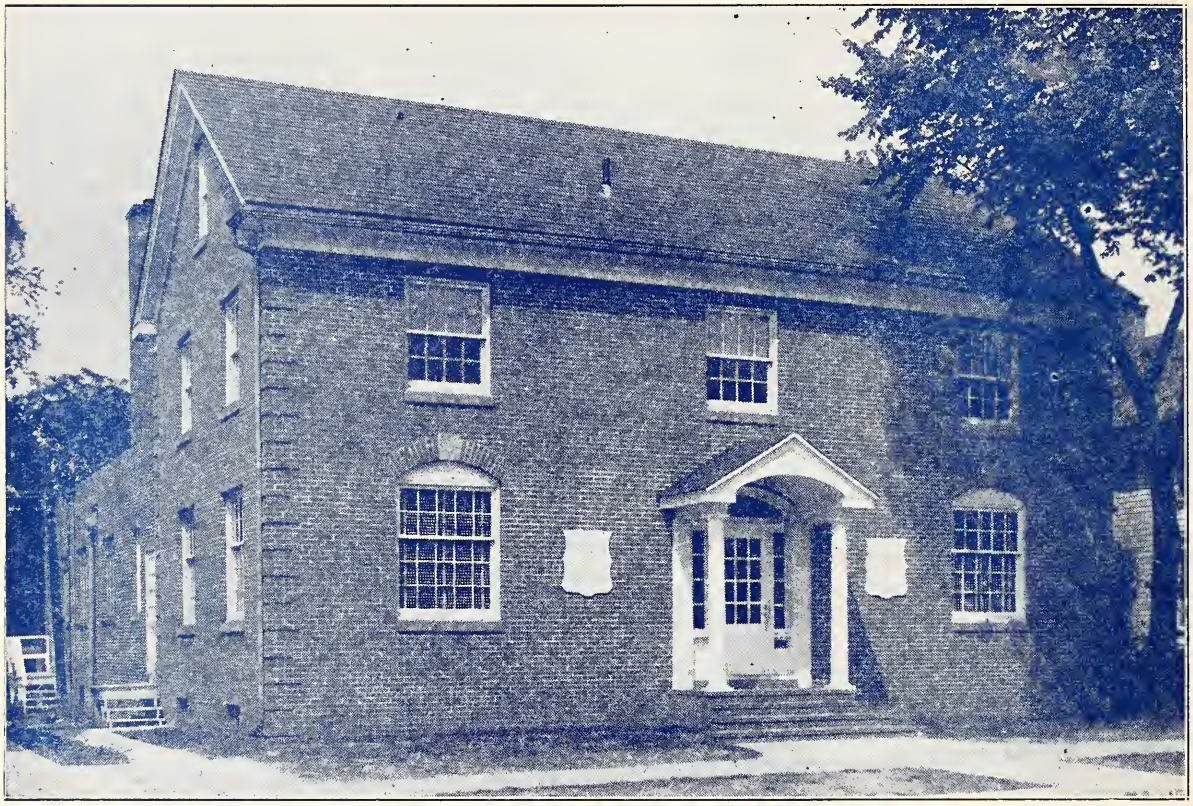

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO, BRETHREN

Dedicate Remodelled Sanctuary

Story on Page 8

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Items of General Interest

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Brother Freeman Ankrum, our Brethren Church History Department writer, informs the Editor that he has been invited to become a member of the Christian Education Committee of the Church of the Brethren. We quote from Brother Ankrum's letter in which he quotes from a letter received by him from C. Ernest Davis, Chairman of the above Committee: " 'I have known of your great interest in Brethren History and have read with great appreciation the writings that have come from your pen. We would be honored if you would accept our invitation to be regarded as a full member of the committee.' "

Brother Ankrum notes that there are five of the Church of the Brethren Historians on the Committee; he adds also, "I shall be honored to accept the invitation." (Ed. Note: We too are glad for the honor which has been extended to Brother Ankrum; he has been performing a very fine work for the Brethren in making possible, through his articles in the **Evangelist**, the preservation of many interesting and important facts relating to Brethren Church History.)

"The specific work of the Committee is the building up of a Brethren Historical Library and the addition of Brethren materials in the libraries of Brethren Colleges and Seminaries."

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. Brother Ralph E. Mills notes in his bulletin a comment relative to the special Christian emphasis program in their church for the past several months: "Today (Dec. 25th) ends the period of special emphasis in the Church. The attendance for the two month period was very encouraging and indicated most members and friends were supporting."

CAMERON, W. VA. The Cameron Church and the local Presbyterian Church joined in a New Year's Eve service, in the Cameron Church, with the Presbyterian pastor, Robert Shaffer, bringing the message.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Improvements at the parsonage continue, with the Homemaker's Class providing venetian blinds for the downstairs, and a gas heater being installed in the spare room.

ELKHART, INDIANA. The Elkhart Choir presented a special program over WSJV-TV the evening of December 20th.

BURLINGTON, INDIANA. Brother Floyd Sibert writes to the Editor: "Christmas Sunday was a wonderful day at Burlington. A baby was consecrated, three young fathers and a young mother made the Great Confession. Two of the young men were baptized and taken into the Church 'that same day.' The other young couple is scheduled to receive baptism this coming Saturday. (Jan. 1st). This unites these three families of young people in the Brethren Church here. The Christmas attendance was good. It was 25% higher than last year."

WABASH, INDIANA. COLLEGE CORNER BRETHREN. (While we have mentioned elsewhere that we wish it were possible to call attention to all of the fine caroling activities throughout the denomination, we do want to call special attention to the one held by the College Corner Brethren. This energetic group did their caroling on Christmas morning—leaving the church at 5:00 A. M. We would be glad to have a fuller report on how it worked out at this early hour, Brother Hanna.—Editor.)

AKRON, INDIANA. Gordon Hedges was guest speaker in the Akron Church on January 1st.

(Continued on Page 15)

COMING EVENTS

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Evangelistic Campaign—**January 30th through February 12th.**—Rev. Henry Bates, Pastor-Evangelist.

This 'n' That

By the Editor

We have been impressed, this past holiday season, with the information received relative to the many Christmas programs given in our Churches. Certainly the lives of all who attended these various programs must have been spiritually enriched. Many of our church and youth groups also went caroling, which we also know brought much cheer and good to those who heard them sing. We wish it were possible to call attention in our Interesting Items to all the fine Christmas programs and Carolings; to do so would have meant the listing of almost all of our Churches, and for the caroling groups, more than a third. All reports indicate, though, that it has been a good season for programs and carolings; for that, we are truly grateful. W. S. B.

The Editor's Pulpit

Influence

GOOD WORKS ARE THE FRUITS OF THE LIFE OF A SAINT. Thus we speak of the good influence of the Christian.

We all know them—good, clean cut, stalwart Christians—whose lives are a positive testimony of the saving grace of our Lord. Of such Paul had in mind when he wrote to the Thessalonian Christians, "Ye were ensamples to all that believed in Macedonia and Achaia. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak anything." (I Thess. 1:7, 8). Of such, the Church can be proud today.

All of us should be that kind of Christians day by day. Without doubt, the ideal of perfect Christian service is in our mind, and we pray day by day, and night by night, that we can be, in His strength, the stalwart, true, and faithful kind of Christian in our ideal. Yet we find that the flesh endeavors to assert itself upon us—the will of self rears its venomous head, and the good intention lies shattered in fragments about our shaking feet. Temptations, weaknesses, evil doers, would seek to spoil our good influence, our desires to serve. Thus do we find value in the words of Peter when he said, "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation." (I Peter 2:11, 12).

It should be noted, though, that the only person who can really destroy our good influence is ourselves. All arguments to the contrary, a Christian full of grace and of the Spirit of the Lord, will rise above all who may speak or do evil against him. The scriptures say so, as noted in the verses just quoted.

We should also note that the stalwart, strong, true Christian saints are those who, without doubt, have mastered great personal temptations, weaknesses, or who have suffered much through the years, but who have learned to conquer in His Name. This avenue is open to all who desire such a life.

A good Christian life will bear good influence among men. It must also be borne in mind, that, good or bad, we are bearing influence on everyone around us.

A farmer once was walking across the fields to the village tavern shortly after a new-fallen-snow. After having gone some distance he heard his young son, who had in childish play decided to follow his father, calling to him, "Daddy, I'm walking in your footsteps." This so shocked the man that he turned from his intended purpose. How much would our lives change if those upon whom we bear influence would tell us, "We're walking in your footsteps?"

We scatter seeds with careless hand
And dream we ne'er shall see them more;
But for a thousand years
Their fruit appears
In weeds that mar the land,
Or healthful store.

The deeds we do, the words we say—
Into still air they seem to fleet,
We count them ever past;
But they shall last—
In the dread judgment they
And we shall meet.

—W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Mary Mack Deffenbaugh

I DO NOT KNOW when I first knew "Aunt" Mary. She to me always existed. Alexander Mack Jr., had been laid in his grave in the Germantown, Pennsylvania, Cemetery, but forty two years when "Aunt" Mary was born in Licking County, Ohio. Her birthday was October 29, 1845. Her parents were John and Mary Woolsey Mack. She was named for her mother, Mary. Her father, the son of Jacob Mack, who was the grandson of Alexander Mack Jr., was born near Masontown, Pennsylvania. Along with his father Jacob, he emigrated from the rolling hills of southwestern Pennsylvania to the more gentle hills of Ohio. They settled in Licking County not far from the new National Road which was in progress of construction across the state of Ohio. The time of the move from Pennsylvania to Ohio likely occurred about 1832. Mary Woolsey Mack was also from the Masontown Community and of a long line of Woolseys. There are relatives yet in that section of the country. Brownsville on the heavily traveled Pike was the nearest village to the farms where Jacob and his son John settled. They were a couple miles to the southwest.

To the marriage of John and Mary Woolsey Mack, were born five children, namely, George, born December 10, 1831; Lucinda, born April 19, 1834; Sarah Ann, born August 7, 1839; Jason (The Author's grandfather) born April 30, 1842 and Mary the baby of the family, born as stated above October 29, 1845. Her father John was born near Masontown, October 9, 1800.

While she was not only to me but to all who knew her "Aunt" Mary, she was correctly speaking my "great aunt," as she was the sister of my grandfather.

When the writer was two years of age, his parents moved from the village of Glenford, Ohio, where he was born to the large Deffenbaugh farm of some 400 acres four miles to the east. Here for the space of nearly nine years, was the boyhood home of the writer. What a location it was. Space for a boy to run and play, people interested in a little lad, and one of the most progressive minded people in the entire community to live around.

It is not possible to mention "Aunt" Mary without mentioning "Uncle" Sam. Samuel Deffenbaugh, like the Macks, could trace his lineage back to Fayette County, Pennsylvania. There are still numerous relatives there carrying the same name.

Aunt Mary differed from the most of the other Macks in that she was small. A large soul and mind in a small body. Uncle Sam was large and robust. Both were accustomed to hard work and toil was no stranger to them. While Mary Mack was growing up in the Mack home, learning the history of her ancestors and availing herself of the limited education of her day, Samuel Deffenbaugh was growing to manhood in the adjoining County of Perry some three or four miles to the south east. It may have been because of the common interest in the matter of Pennsylvania which brought them together. The story, if told to the writer has been forgotten, but we do know that on March 11, 1866 Samued Deffenbaugh and Mary Mack were united in marriage and she came to live on the large Deffenbaugh farm.

The Macks as well as the Deffenbaughs did not leave their Dunker religion in Pennsylvania but brought it along with them to the new homes in Ohio. In the matter of their religious life we find them elected to the offices of Deacon and Deaconness. These two offices they faithfully filled until the Lord called them home from this life. Samuel Deffenbaugh and Mary Mack's marriage came about just a year following the close of the bloody Civil War. While it is true that this section of the country escaped the battles, no section of the east could remain entirely aloof. General John Morgan's Raiders were reported headed that way, and riflemen guarded the barn at the lower house with their old muzzle loader rifles. The rumor proved false however. Men were drafted into the service much against their will, and the community was not permitted to forget by the limitations of the few goods purchased that there was a war on hand.

The Greenwood Dunkard or "Conservative," Church as it was later called was on the western edge of the Deffenbaugh farm. Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary were Deacon and Deaconness there. Following the regretted division of 1882, a "Progressive" church was built at "Five Points," four miles west of Glenford. The Deffenbaughs transferred their membership to this Church, joining the "Progressive" element. However when the Beracha "Progressive" church was built on the Deffenbaugh farm in 1898 Uncle Sam still continued, when there was no conflict to attend services in the Greenwood church.

Samuel and Mary Mack Deffenbaugh were the parents of two children. Charles E. was born January 23, 1867.

He taught for a few terms in Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio, but spent the most of his life with his father on the farm. He was married twice; first to Minnie Oaks of Trotwood, Ohio, whom he met in Ashland College, and second to Juanita Huggens of Arkansas. Charles died in Ashland, Ohio, April 7, 1934, and is buried in the Good Hope Cemetery a couple miles west of the Deffenbaugh farm. Just a little over twenty years following the birth of Charles, a little daughter came whom they named Ethel. She was born October 23, 1887. She, like her brother Charles, was a student in Ashland College. Here she met Charles Tinkey of Ashland and on January 27, 1909 they were united in marriage in the Deffenbaugh home. The ceremony was by her brother Charles, who was a Minister. Charles Tinkey died near Ashland, Ohio, March 7, 1932. They have one son John. Charles Tinkey is buried in the Good Hope Cemetery east of Glenford, Ohio. At the present writing Ethel, Mrs. Charles Tinkey lives with her son, John and wife, near West Salem, Ohio.

The Deffenbaughs were progressive minded. Charles was so far ahead of his time that he was styled "Visionary," by some. The home was, in its early days, the outstanding home of the community. Here came the telephone, when it was almost an experiment. Here was found running water and a bathroom; a thing unheard of in most of the country homes of the community. They even had a refrigerator, not depending upon the Spring House as many did. There was a large fish pond and each winter one of the chores was the cutting of ice and filling the large Ice House. This was about the only one in the community. Water for the house was forced up the hill from a free flowing spring just above the fish pond, by a Hydraulic Ram to a tank in the attic of the large brick house. The pit in which the Ram was located was ever the delight of us small boys. The moss, the lizards and now and then a green frog looking up at us with wide eyes as we looked down were never forgotten. The farm was also used as a testing ground for new machinery. The first sulky plow to be used in the immediate community was purchased by the Deffenbaughs and was used on this farm. People could not understand how it was possible to ride and plow.

The fish pond had its attractions. Here the small fry learned to swim. Here one summer day when they were enjoying the cool water, ever minded of Indians of whom "Aunt" Mary had told them many stories, "Uncle" Sam rushed out of a near by cornfield crying out "Indians! Indians!" The small fry in the pond rushed out of the water, seized their clothes and ran the other way as fast as their legs would carry them, no doubt breaking their best previous records. How "Uncle" Sam laughed and enjoyed telling the tale to various audiences. Yes, The Author was one of the runners.

"Aunt" Mary was a great reader, also a great story teller. As a Bible story teller she was hard to surpass. With us youngsters sitting around her, she told us Bible stories such as David and and Goliath, Samson, Noah and the Ark until we could as we sat there with wide open eyes, ears and mouths almost hear the rain falling on the shingle roof of the Ark.

Their home in those days now so far and at times so near possessed many books. Various magazines came into it among which, the Author's favorite was The Youth's

The Home of Samuel and Mary Deffenbaugh

Companion. There was also a typewriter which was used by Mrs. Charles Deffenbaugh and various Ministers who came to make their home with the Deffenbaughs while they were preaching in the community. The Deffenbaughs always supplied a room and the board free to the one who was preaching at the Bethel church at "Five Points," or later on at the Beracha church. They even built a "Prophet's Room," as it were, along by the one which had been originally used. A great treat for us small boys would be when carefully guided we were permitted to visit those rooms where there were so many books and papers, along with pencils.

The large farm and the modern home was the stopping place of many visitors. Perhaps few visiting ministers missed the home. There was one who may be remembered by some who will read this; he was Dr. McGregor a traveling Evangelist who held a Meeting at the Bethel Church. Elder James Quinter was not a stranger in the home. He was a contemporary of Elder Jacob Mack, an Uncle of Mary Mack Deffenbaugh. There could be named many who have gone to Glory and some still among the living who found the Deffenbaugh home their home. There was the young student of sacred memory, John Allen Miller who made this his home while he was a student preacher in the community. Hardly a summer passed but there were visitors from Pennsylvania. Correspondence was kept up between the relatives in the old state and the new one.

The Church was the ever love of Aunt Mary and Uncle Sam. "Saml," she abbreviated the name. They were generous givers when they had the means, and sacrificial givers when times had changed. Many a young preacher who had the wisdom to listen to Aunt Mary became a better preacher and prepared better sermons following her constructive criticism.

The Deffenbaugh home was always an open home, with a welcome to all. The large sugar camp where Maple sap was boiled in the spring time attracted numerous visitors. There was always room for them in the brick house just a little ways up the hill.

Mary Mack Deffenbaugh was proud of her ancestry. Could a person have put on paper the many things told to those who sat around her, our history would be much richer. The Author literally sat at her feet while she took time to pour out her marvelous stories and information

relative to the Mack ancestry. In fact it was a common matter and taken for granted until we were awakened later while a student in Ashland College, by Dr. J. Allen Miller as to its full import.

It was Aunt Mary who furnished much help and inspiration in the long task of research and the securing of materials for the production of "ALEXANDER MACK THE TUNKER AND DESCENDANTS." This came out in 1943 but unfortunately Aunt Mary did not see it, as she had passed on.

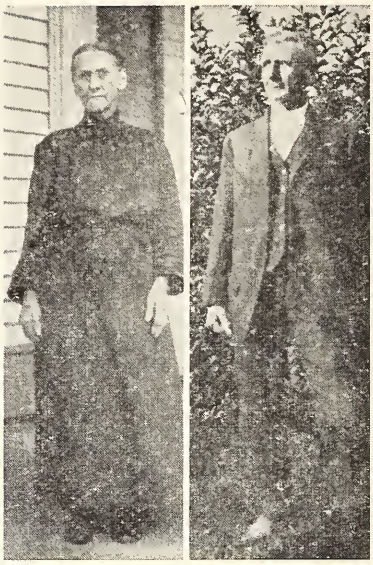
The Author lived in the large brick house at the foot of the hill on the Deffenbaugh farm.

Aunt Mary was a wonderful correspondent. She was as good a letter writer as she was story teller. The Author corresponded with her up until the time of her death in 1934. In one of the letters just a few years before her death, she wrote to the Author:

"One of the pictures that hang on memory's wall is of a red brick house at the foot of a hill. The door opened and a little boy came out and walked across the porch and down the steps and trotted along a short lane to a hill. Soon a little head bobbed up the hill and a little boy was seen with a book under his right arm. He came to the house where a woman was standing, perhaps she was sweeping as it was early in the morning. She was surprised to see the book brought back so soon and said 'Have you read it through already?' and a little bright face looked up with a pleasant smile and said, 'Yes, could I get another?' She said 'We will look for another,' and when it was found he put it under his arm and trotted down the hill. This was often repeated in my lonely days."

Upon the philosophy of death she wrote just four years before her death, "I have thought since I was four years old upon the subject of death, and am still thinking upon it. When I was a child, people either walked or rode on horseback, and as my mother was a poor rider, she never took me to funerals. But when my sister who was seven years older than I, was large enough to walk, she went to a funeral and your grandfather and I stayed at a neighbors and when the family came home, she came to the neighbors for us, and I asked her what a funeral was. She told me what it was and about the dead, and death. I never will forget how I felt when she told me how people were when they were dead, and what death was, and what caused it and I studied over it all my life." The sister was Sarah Ann Mack who later made her home with the Deffenbaughs until her death July 9, 1901. She never married.

Samuel and Mary Mack Deffenbaugh united with the church in September 1869 and were baptized together, They were charter members of the Bethel Church west of Glenford when it was organized in 1883. Samuel Deffenbaugh was a hard worker and busily engaged in the operation of his large farm. However not all the ventures proved profitable when the rosy promises faded. Just a few years before the death of Uncle Sam on the old farm, he had undergone an operation for the removal of a leg. He recovered from this. The Surgeon in Columbus where the operation was performed stated, "Only his clean living made recovery from this operation possible."



UNCLE SAM AND AUNT MARY DEFFENBAUGH

Uncle Sam died on October 17, 1922 at the age of 78 years, 7 months and 6 days. His funeral was conducted by the late Dr. John Allen Miller and Rev. Garrison then Pastor at Glenford. Burial was in the Good Hope Cemetery a couple miles west of the farm. The operation had necessitated a large hospital bill. This with additional reverses which followed swiftly the passing of Uncle Sam caused them to lose the place. So on November 7, 1929, they moved to a farm near Shiloh, Ohio. Here they lived at the time of the death of Charles Tinkey, the son-in-law March 7, 1932. Later on the same month they moved into the city of Ashland, Ohio.

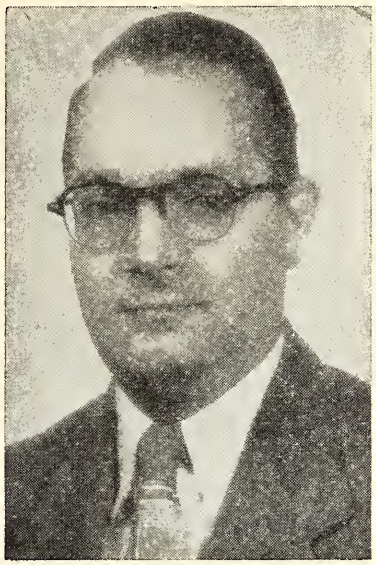
If Aunt Mary complained to the writer, it is not remembered. She was a wonderful correspondent and poured out herself in her letters. She had had a long desire to see the Mountains. In her old age it was arranged that she should visit the Author and family at Oak Hill, West Virginia, when I was Pastor of the Brethren Church there. My father and mother brought her down in the October time of the year when the mountain sides were decked in their various colors; a picture the mind of man could not describe. She was taken to the overlooking of the New River and stood speechless as she drank in the beauties from the hands of God. When we felt that it was time to return to Oak Hill, she stated, "Oh! Don't go." Meals were second to the enjoyment brought Aunt Mary in her look at the mountains in all of their beauty.

From her childhood, she was a great reader. When a Bible was read and reread until it was worn out she did not burn it as so many would have done to an old book, but she buried it. It was the privilege of the Author to present her with a Bible a short time before her death, as the one she was using was well along in wear.

In her eighties before she left the old home farm, she did her share of the hard work. Morning and night, little and frail though she was, she went to the barn to aid in

(Continued on Page 9)

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bischof

(Our Missionaries on furlough)

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT BISCHOF, who returned from Nigeria on December 17, will soon be making the Shively Missionary Home, 1014 Grant Street in Ashland, their headquarters.

Immediately following their arrival in the States, they visited with their families in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and in Louisville, Ohio. Bob and Bea both seem to be in fine health again, but the Board wants them to have a good rest and an opportunity to insure complete recuperation from their recent illness before they begin any deputation work.

It is not likely that they will be scheduled for any meetings before March 1. After this time an itinerary will be arranged for them so that they can visit a number of our churches. Watch this page of the **Evangelist** to learn when they will be in your area.

An effort will be made to send the Bischofs to your church, if you have made a request to have them. To save time, strength and expense, they should visit as many churches in one district as possible when they are in the area, and not be asked to return numerous times to accommodate the convenience of individual churches.

They have travelled thousands of miles to serve for us and, returning, to share their experiences with us. Now, let's make our schedules to coincide with theirs.

WATCH FOR FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS!

LETTERS TO THE CHURCHES

IN KEEPING with the Missionary Board's forward look and their effort to maintain a progressive program, a study is being made of church offerings. Needless to say, if we are to make progress in our work, offerings will need to increase.

Churches whose offerings have been sent in will receive a letter from the Missionary Board office, listing last year's offerings for home missions and this year's; therefore, if any of these churches want to maintain an increase-in-offering record, or to raise their offering in keeping with the expanded program, they may add to the amount we have already received.

Your pastor or church secretary will receive the letter for your church. Please ask him about your record.

Incidentally, we hope churches will establish the custom of sending offerings to our office fairly promptly after they are taken or at regular intervals throughout the year. Such practice, which constitutes a dependable income, makes progress in missions possible.

FORWARD WITH CHRIST AT WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO

by **Betty Jo Goad,** Church Correspondent

BY THE TIME this article is published, Thanksgiving Day will be passed and in some cases, even forgotten, until another November rolls around. What a pity that so many of us set aside one day out of the entire 365 to count our blessings. Did you ever stop to think what it would be like if God were to designate just one day out of the year, perhaps he would title it "Blessing Day" and on that particular day and no other He would bless us in some way. But being a just God, even though He sorrows over the fact that we give Him so little of our time, He continues to bless us day after day.

We, here at the West Alexandria Brethren Church, should fall on our knees, thanking God for the wonderful way our church is going forward financially and most important of all, spiritually.

New souls are being won over to labor for the Lord and now with our redecorating program a thing of the past, the future, itself, looks bright.

Our first big step this past year was the purchase of a new electric organ. Next in line was the interior decorating and remodeling. It was a great and expensive "step" but the people came through by donating their labor and money and inside of a few weeks the alterations made such a change, you could hardly believe it could be the same church.

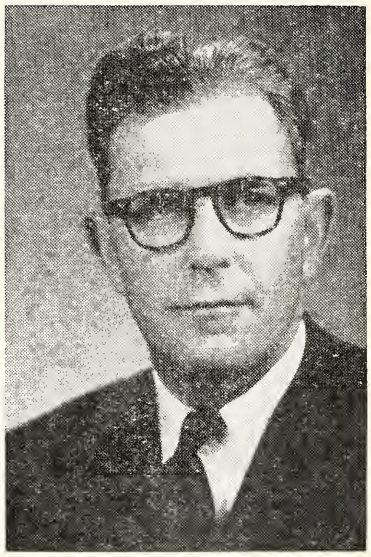
The greatest change was the mode of lighting. At the suggestion of our pastor, Rev. H. R. Garland, indirect lighting was used the full length of both East and West walls. This eliminated the white globed lights hanging from the ceiling.

The two-tone tan walls took on a new look with the application of soothing green paint, white paint was used on the ceiling and also on the walls above the new lights, thus giving the effect of a lower ceiling.

The rostrum, too, underwent a major change. The pulpit was moved from the center to one side and an altar table was placed in front of a new maroon drapery.

To really do it justice in this story is impossible as there are so many things we could point out and describe. However, this has touched upon the major improvements.

Again I say, we West Alexandria Brethren can name every day Thanksgiving Day for the blessings we have received. We can be proud of the progress our church has made since it was organized by a small but God fearing group of Brethren people back in 1883. Surely they must have lived by the scripture in which Jesus spoke, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." (Matthew 17:20).



PASTOR H. R. GARLAND

May we Brethren of today have the same faith which those few kept back in the 1800's, when through many discouragements and over hurdles, they continued to build the church I can so proudly write of today.

Lord, give us strength here in West Alexandria to carry on Thy work, realizing that all things which are impossible with men are possible with God. With the faith of a tiny mustard seed, we will continue to move forward, building a better church for our Brethren of tomorrow, for Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

JANUARY 15, 1956

Goal—Not less than $5,000.00

MARY MACK DEFFENBAUGH

(Continued from Page 6)

the milking. The milk, a pail in each hand was carried up to the milk house. One day she told the Author. "Do you know. I was coming out of the barn with two buckets of milk when an aeroplane went over. I was so anxious to see it that I looked up. I was not watching where I was going and stumped my toe, falling flat and spilling both buckets of milk." No complaint, just seeing the humorous side of an unpleasant experience.

For some 64 years she made her home on the Deffenbaugh place where she came as a young bride following the Civil War. Leaving the place where her active life has been spent is never easy, the old church site, the place where the children were born; where death had come, where walls were covered with memory's unseen pictures, but never-the-less there just the same; all these things try the faith of an individual. Her faith and her love for her Master; the Church with its associates and associations, were greater than the reverses which came to her in her old age. Rich in goods not made by hands, and supported by unseen hands she faced the future without fear, sustained by an unfaltering trust.

After she had moved to Ashland with her daughter she was seriously ill several times before her passing. One time she told the writer of an experience. She said, "I wondered if this was death, but it was not."

Aunt Mary passed from the land of the ephemeral to the Eternal in the city of Ashland, Ohio, at her daughter's home February 1, 1934, at the age of 88 years, 3 months and 2 days. Her Pastor, Rev. Dyoll Belote, then Pastor of the Ashland Park St. Brethren Church conducted her last rites in the Lutheran Church east of Glenford, Ohio, after which she was buried in the nearby Cemetery by the side of her husband. Rev. Belote in his obituary wrote in part:

"For 64 years Sister Deffenbaugh made her home on the Deffenbaugh homestead not far from here. For 4½ years she has made her home with her children in Ashland, Ohio. Upon the removal to Ashland she placed her letter with the First Brethren Church of that place, and of which I have the honor of being pastor, and has continued her faithfulness to her belief and practices which has made her loved and respected among all who have ever been privileged to meet and call her friend. A great many ministers of the Brethren church of my age have preached at some time in the Glenford charge, and among them all she was held in universal esteem for her wise counsel and motherly interest in the welfare of all those who were called to the church to serve as its shepherd.

"Dr. J. Allen Miller said to your speaker on Thursday evening as we stood on the steps of his home, 'I want you to bear testimony for me to the influence she had in my life when as a young man, just starting in the ministry, she took me into her home and for four years was a friendly and wise counsellor and a mother to a young man who had never known the sympathy and love of an own mother. She was a good woman' And I'm sure that if the dozen men whom I could name who have served as Pastor of the Glenford Church were present today their testimony would be as full and sincere as Dr. Miller's." In this cemetery sleeps her father, John and various members of the Mack line.

Aunt Mary made no claims to perfection. There were times when she was not understood and when her efforts were misinterpreted and not understood likewise. Yet the home in its heyday was always open. The writer doubts if there was ever a Sunday service at the Beracha Church when there were not numerous visitors in the Deffenbaugh home for dinner. It may as well be said here even if they had a dozen, and that number was not unusual, no one missed attendance at the church service. The large picturesque dining room; its Stage Coach Picture hanging on the wall; the large suspended oil lamp above the dining room table with its glistening glass pendant chrystals made a homey scene. "Aunt" Sarah Ann's bread, which she baked every Friday was second to none. The cakes, pies and cookies were of the best. Sarah Ann Mack was the baker of the home. They baked a large cookie which they coated with sugar. There was always a supply on hand for hungry boys who happened to show up at the kitchen door.

It was Aunt Mary who inspired her son Charles to go to Ashland to College when education in those days was hard to come by. She also persuaded his first cousin, Lucinda Mack, and her niece who lived close by to also attend Ashland with him. She later returned to her home to teach a term of school at old Jockey Hollow after which she married a young man by the name of Armstrong Ankrum. They became the father and mother of the Author. It was Aunt Mary who in the course of time by her inspiration and influence was instrumental in prevailing upon the Author to enroll in Ashland College. After being under her influence there were no other Colleges even considered.

Others tread the floors of the old home which still stands some distance from the highway. Others till its fields but know not the history made within its walls and over its rolling acres, yet there are scores today who would find themselves much poorer in memory as well as numerous other ways, had they not come in contact with the occupants of the home of Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary Deffenbaugh in the rolling hills of Perry County, Ohio.

St. James, Maryland.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

Make checks payable to The Brethren Publishing Company, and address The Brethren Publishing Company, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

What's Doing in the Churches

PASTORAL AND EVANGELISTIC SKETCHES

It is under the above caption that we have been writing for the "Evangelist" for many years. At this time we again take the opportunity of reporting our recent trip to our Kentucky churches. Mrs. Grisso and myself left North Manchester on October 18th enroute to our Training School and Church at Lost Creek where we were scheduled for two weeks in speaking for the School and in evangelistic effort for the church. This preaching mission also included several days at the Rowdy church fifteen miles distant from Lost Creek.

This was the writer's sixth visit to our work here in the mountains of Kentucky, part of which has been in revival effort and the other part in the interests of the Missionary Board. The folks here have always been an exceptionally busy group and doubly interesting to work with. At present all the workers are carrying a heavy load, in fact too heavy for their own good and perhaps too, for the good of the work in general. What I mean to say is, there is so much to be done, and too few workers to do it. It seems that if there could be found some real-for-sure dedicated and consecrated young people who want to give themselves to a real-for-sure piece of home mission work, here is a golden opportunity.

In all, in this present visit the writer spoke twenty-five times at Lost Creek in the Chapel services, in the Church services, at Fugates Fork and at Rowdy. There could much be said about these various services but I will leave that part to another. Only let me say it was a great privilege to again labor with my friend and brother George E. Drushal, and his family. An evangelist always receives a great uplift himself by spending some time with these consecrated workers. The interest throughout was very good. The students and faculty were found in the services each night. Our Brother Kindick, a member of the faculty did an excellent job in directing the singing during the meeting, and with Ada at the piano, that part of the meetings was cared for in a very wonderful way. We deeply appreciate their contribution to the meetings. In this connection let it be said too that the presence of brother and sister Dorman Ronk on the campus for the winter is proving an asset to the work in many ways. We used them too in the meeting. Brother Ronk's work primarily is to look after the construction of two buildings, but they seem to come in handy at many other jobs.

We were gloriously surprised to have Brother Herbert Gilmer from our County Line, Indiana, church with us one night who had brought a truck load of, shall I say most everything, for Lost Creek and Krypton.

If space permitted I would enjoy writing at length concerning "The Drushals and Fifty years at Lost Creek." Only Eternity will reveal the magnitude of what has been accomplished in Breathitt County in the past fifty years through their ministry. As to the days ahead, to the writer it would appear very promising. Indeed the outlook is good. Everything connected with the work seems to be, perhaps the best ever. THE BRETHREN CHURCH WILL MAKE NO MISTAKE IN CONTINUING TO GIVE IT A LARGE PLACE IN OUR HOME MISSION OFFERING. There remains yet a great harvest to be gathered.

While on the field we made our home in the "Guest Room" in the Wheeler Building and took our meals at the Dormitory with students and Teachers. It was a great time of fellowship and blessing together.

Thanks, Brethren for everything. The Lord will repay you for it all in His own time and way. Mrs. Grisso joins me in saying, Thank you!

C. C. Grisso.

ROANOKE, INDIANA

For the past year we have been worshiping with and ministering to the Brethren at Roanoke on each Lord's Day. Our arrangement with the Brethren was to the effect that at such time they could secure a full time pastor to locate on the field, our service would terminate with them. Such arrangements being perfected we closed our labors with them in early October. As membership goes, Roanoke is not a large church, it is small, but only in membership. They have a loyal group, faithful to the local work and to the general interests of the church. They have a fine group of young folks, and children especially, coming on, and we would have every reason to believe that through proper care they will move forward and give a true testimony to our Lord and to the Brethren Church in Roanoke. Brother Paul Tinkle is in charge at present and comfortably located in their midst. May heaven's choicest blessings attend their labors together as pastor and people.

As for ourselves we are happy in "working among the Churches" as supply pastor, and evangelist, and as opportunity may come to us from time to time we shall be glad to serve the churches in this capacity. We are living in our new home in North Manchester, and to our friends, remember, our address is North Manchester, Ind. R. No. 2.

Remaining, Yours Faithfully, In the Blessed Hope.

C. C. Grisso.

WATERLOO, IOWA

The two weeks which Rev. Virgil Meyer spent with us here in the Waterloo Church were a mountain top of spiritual uplift. His messages were directed, largely, to the congregation and many have been the expressions of joy and blessing by the members. It had been only six years since Brother Meyer was Pastor here and everyone enjoyed the fellowship with him. Waterloo always loves

its Pastors, not only when they are here but after they move on to other fields.

The addition to the church as a result is one by baptism and one other came forward but has not decided as yet to join this congregation. Brother Gentle had gleaned this field rather closely as far as the immediate prospects were concerned.

This church faces a condition which has been experienced in so many places. When this building was erected about forty years ago, it was only about a block from the fields of the country. Now, the city has grown beyond it some two miles leaving us almost down town. Commercial interests are coming this way, in fact within one block. Then, since the Catholic church has built a large school close, a great many of the homes around the church have been purchased by Catholic families and our immediate field is thereby limited. This fact hurts our Sunday School because we cannot draw much from the neighborhood. The thing to do, it seems, is to begin an expansion program by going out into some unchurched community and starting a new work by setting up a Sunday School with the view to making it a nucleus of a second church in Waterloo.

We have begun a Bible class in the midweek services which promises to be a great blessing to the church. There were forty-seven present last night, the second session. May God lead us, pastor and people, in our work together.

Albert T. Ronk.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO

The last of September we began our fourth year as Pastor of the Louisville Brethren Church. The three years have been happy years with some progress noted each year.

Finances have been good for a small Church, both for local work and for denominational needs. With a membership of only 300 we rank with the ten highest givers, at least in some of the offerings.

We have made many improvements, the largest being the revamping and changing of our Children's department. Three adult classes met on the third floor of the Sunday School annex when I came here, but now the entire 3 floors have been given over to the Children's department. The adults were glad to all go into the main auditorium in order to give our children the best training possible.

$2000.00 alone was spent in making the Nursery and Beginner's department one of the best in the denomination. They occupy the main floor of the S. S. annex. Instead of the smaller children playing in the sand box they now enjoy a regular program. The Beginners meet on the top floor and the Juniors and Intermediates in the basement floor. We need more room so that these two departments might be separated.

The entire building has been repainted at a cost close to $1000.00. $500.00 was spent in enlarging and graveling the parking lot. This keeps the cars from the main highway. Other smaller items, too, have been added. This improvement has been cared for by quarterly cash days and the entire amount is almost met.

The attendance since 1947 has seen a gradual increase in the S. S. and morning worship services. The S. S. attendance for these years is as follows 112-113-117-121-129-134-137-142, and we believe this year we will hit an average of 155. If we do, and we have just 3 Sundays yet to go, we will have made the highest gain through these years. At the beginning of the year our goal was an average of 155 for 1955 at both the S. S. and the Church morning services. We will not quite make it in the Church services. This gain has been made in spite of a loss in the first quarter when we had some very stormy Sundays. The large increase over a year ago began in the summer months, when we started to send out our Mid-Week Bulletins. We have fallen below a year ago only a few times since. Some Sundays the increase has been rather large.

The increase in membership has not been large but it has been an increase from 269 to the present membership of 302. Along with the increase in attendance, membership and financial gifts we have seen some steps forward in the spiritual program.

Our fall revival proved to be a real blessing to the Church herself, although only two were received into membership by baptism. Many new contacts were made and we believe there will be constant additions in the future. We now have a prospective list of 65 homes in addition to folks within the membership family. These have been secured within the year and so will have to be cultivated some before we can expect a large addition.

We certainly did enjoy the presence, sermons and visits with Brother and Sister J. F. Burton of Mulvane, Kansas. Brother Burton is a good Gospel preacher. He and Mrs. Burton were a great help in the visitations made in the various homes. The people here appreciated their services a great deal. The mid-week attendance was not too large but the attendance over the Sundays was higher than in former years. Only the future will reveal something of the good that was accomplished during these two weeks.

Our Sunday Evening and prayer meeting attendance is not what it ought to be. We hope to make some gains here during the year 1956. Pray for the Louisville Brethren and Pastor as we plan an expansion program for more room.

L. V. King.

ARDMORE, SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

The Lord's work is being carried on in the Ardmore Brethren Church. Sunday is always a busy day with Sunday school, morning worship, Junior Church, Youth Crusaders, children's singspiration and the evening worship service. Each Wednesday evening is choir rehearsal followed by prayer Meeting and Bible study.

Our revival meetings were held Nov. 1st to 11th with Rev. Woodrow Brant the evangelist. His messages were from the book of Revelation and by the quality of his sermons it was evident that he spent much time alone with God in preparing them. Rev. Brant has a great passion for lost souls, and it was so vividly shown in his

(Continued on Page 14)

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

ALONE WITH GOD

There are times when I like to be alone—
  Alone with my thoughts and God—
Where never a list'ning ear can hear,
  And never a foot has trod.

Alone and awake to the joys that are mine,
  Alive to the touch of God's hand,
All care is forgotten and moments are sweet
  In my peaceful hide-away-land.

Each being should strive to find time alone—
  Alone with his thoughts and God—
Where never a list'ning ear can hear,
  And never a foot has trod.

—Marie Layton Carlson.

CHRISTIAN WORKERS realize that outward organization makes corresponding inward prayerfulness necessary. To provide for this God has commanded the closet prayer (Matt. 6:6), that we may "draw nigh" to Him (Jas. 4:8). The place can be anywhere that we can draw near to God (1 Tim. 2:5), and no priest is needed but Jesus (1 Tim. 2:8). Places that have become "closets" were Abraham's altar (Gen. 12:8), Isaac's field (Gen. 24:63), a river crossing (Gen. 32:24-26), a mountain (Ex. 3:1-4; Luke 6:6), a housetop (Acts 10:9).

"God keep some silent places for us still
Apart from those where man forever goes:
Some altars lit by sunset on a hill,
Or alcoves in the canyon wall where grows
The crystal drop of moisture on the fern,
Where ancient firs bend tenderly above;
For souls of men must sometimes deeply yearn
For silence such as this to serve Thy love."

Bible characters had regular times as well as places for private prayer (Dan. 6:10; Psa. 55:17). Jesus followed His "custom" for devotional life (Lu. 4:16). Paul was given to "prayers day and night" (2 Tim. 1:3). Private prayer is a sure promise of help (Isa. 40:31). Here we grow in grace. If we pray aloud prayer will mean more and we shall be enabled to pray in public.

The best praying is done in secret (Gen. 32:24). There we know what we desire, and ask for it (Gen. 32:11). It is there that we may prevail (Gen. 32:24), and receive the blessing (Gen. 32:29). We obtain by faith, and conquer by surrender (Heb. 11:6; Psa. 66:18).

In private prayer and fellowship with God, God may open our eyes (Isa. 42:7), ears (Isa. 50:5), heart (Acts 16:14), mouth (Psa. 51:15), the Scriptures (Lu. 24:32), Our understanding (Lu. 24:45), and then open doors for service (1 Cor. 16:9).

"Dear God, another day is done
And I have seen the golden sun
Swing in the arch from east to west
And sink behind the pines to rest.
I thank Thee that Thou gavest me
The power of sight that I may see
The tinted glories of Thy skies,
An earthly glimpse of paradise;
The power to hear the evening breeze
Swelling in organ harmonies;
The power to feel the tender grasp
Of loving hands in friendship's clasp;
I thank Thee for these gifts to me,
But one thing more I ask of Thee;
From out Thy bounteous, gracious hand
Give me the power to understand,
To understand—to sympathize—
To note the pain in others' eyes;
To have the power rightly to read
The kindly motive of each deed.
And this I humbly ask of Thee
Because I know Thou lovest me."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for January 22, 1956

PARABLES ON DISCIPLESHIP

Lesson: Luke 14:7-11, 16-24

"Am I a soldier of the cross—
  A foll'wer of the Lamb?
And shall I fear to own His cause,
  Or blush to speak His name?

Must I be carried to the skies
  On flow'ry beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize,
  And sailed thro' bloody seas?"

ISAAC WATTS must have been thinking of **discipleship** when he wrote this hymn. The Christian life is a life of discipline. There are many lessons that need to be learned. Jesus was constantly setting forth for His disciples, such as in today's lesson, the requirements of true discipleship.

Discipleship for the Master demands sincere humility. It was for this very purpose that Jesus spoke forth the parable in Luke 14:8-11. He that viewed with distaste the proud attitude of those who had gone to "the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread . . . And He put forth a parable . . . when He marked how they chose out the chief rooms."

Carnal men are constantly seeking out the chief places for themselves—the places of prominence. In his First Epistle, John called this selfish love for attention "the pride of life," which he said "is not of the Father, but is of the world" (I John 2:16).

And what did Christ say concerning those who seek to satisfy the selfish desires of the flesh? "Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted" (Luke 14:11).

The true example of humility was set by our Lord Himself. He, "who, being in the form of God," was willing to take "upon Him the form of a servant (lit. slave), . . . humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:6-8).

Discipleship for the Master also demands strict obedience to His call. The second parable that is stated in our lesson reveals the flimsy excuses many so-called disciples make when the Master calls.

"I cannot come," said the first man, for "I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it." Likewise the second man said: "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them." What kind of business man would invest in property or buy cattle sight unseen? Yea, these were not **reasons**, but simply **excuses** to escape the responsibilities of discipleship!

The third man permitted home-ties to keep him from service: "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come." Hearing this man's excuse Jesus said: "If any man come to Me, and hate not his father, and mother, and **wife**, and children, and brethren, and sisters . . . he cannot be My disciple" (vs. 26).

Does this sound cruel and harsh to us coming from the lips of the Saviour? Does it seem as though Christ demands too much of His disciples?

Not so! Our Lord is not a **Hard Taskmaster**, but a **Loving Lord** who longs to give the best to His children. He cannot help us, however, until first we are disciplined.

Recently one of God's children wrote these words out of her experience of discipleship: "I can truthfully say that God is teaching me the **reality** of His Word in all my experiences. I'm almost sorry when things do go smoothly because it's in the **daily conflicts** that I have learned to cast myself solely upon Him."

This is learning the true meaning of discipleship!

Laid to Rest

YOCUM. The Infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Yocum was deceased at the time of birth on Sunday afternoon July 31st. The name Sue Ellen had been chosen for the baby. Graveside services held Monday afternoon August 1 in the presence of the immediate family. The pastor conducted the service. The infant is survived by her parents, a sister, Mary Lou, her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sausaman, and her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Yocum.

Thomas A. Shannon.

* * *

MOODY. John D. Moody, our good friend and brother of Masontown Brethren Church, Sunday School and Laymen's group, died October 6, 1955, aged 71 years and 11 months. Was born in Morrell, Pa., October 18, 1883. Leaves wife and several children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Charles Moredock.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

HOPE

"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." II Tim. 2:3.

ANNIE JOHNSON FLINT, the beloved Christian poetess, has these beautiful lines, which put most beautifully the thought of the text:

"God has not promised skies always blue,
Flower strewn pathways all our lives through.
God has not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.

"But God has promised strength for the day,
Rest for the labor, light for the way;
Grace for the trial, help from above,
Unfailing patience, undying love."

"I don't know how you stand it," one girl said to another who had experienced successive heartbreaking losses and partings. And the latter made sullen reply, "Stand it? Why, what else is there to do?" Hardships are part **of the universal heritage.** As the poetess has phrased it above: God never promised that life should always be pleasant and joyous, that we should always have an easy time.

Few, if any, of us escape some hardships, yet something of the value we shall receive from these hardships depends upon the way we meet them. And we all know that there is a great variety in the way people respond to their trials; some whine and grumble at their lot. Others, like the girl mentioned above, show courage enough, but it is bitter and resentful. Others sense the hand of God in their life, and courageously accept their hardships, knowing that God will not permit trials and temptations to come to us above that we are able to bear, but with them will also give the grace to endure and overcome. And so the Christian rests in hope, and in all his experiences remembers he is God's child and the object of His keeping grace.

Wedding Announcement

NEEDHAM-SCHULTZ. On Wednesday evening September 1st Miss Joyce Needham, a member of the Roann Brethren Church, and Mr. Harry Schultz of Indianapolis were united in marriage in a private ceremony at the bride's church. The ceremony was by the pastor.

MOWRER-SMITHEE. Saturday afternoon October 1st Miss Gladys Mowrer of Wabash, Indiana, and Mr. James Smithee of Roann, Indiana were married at the Roann Brethren Church. Mr. Smithee is a member of the church. The ceremony was performed by the pastor.

Thomas A. Shannon.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

(Continued from Page 11)

messages, by his reluctancy in ending the altar call and his faithfulness each evening in the prayer room before the service.

Only God knows the complete results of this meeting. The visible results were three young children accepting Christ as their Saviour (a little child shall lead them) and three adults uniting with the church by baptism. Since then, including these, Rev. Tinkel has baptized nine persons, and seven have been received into the church.

On Nov. 13th the fall communion was observed with around sixty five attending. Nov. 20th the W. M. S. held their public service in the evening.

We are glad to announce that a new addition is being built onto the north side of the church. There will be three new class rooms in the basement, a nursery and new rest rooms upstairs.

Sunday, Dec. 4th, Rolf Stolpner was the guest speaker in the morning service. Saturday evening, December 3rd, Rolf was the speaker at our St. Joseph County Youth for Christ Rally which was faithfully attended by a large number of our young people along with some of the older folk.

Preparation is now being made for the annual Christmas program which will be given the evening of December 17th.

The year 1955 is drawing to a close. God is faithful and may we all strive to be more faithful to Him as we begin a new year.

Mrs. Marshall Harman, Cor. Secy.

FROM WATERLOO, IOWA TO GOSHEN, INDIANA

It was a hard decision to make; only ministers can understand what it means to be faced with the task of deciding whether to remain in a pastorate, or to move to another. We were faced with this problem this past summer. After MUCH prayer; after spending many sleepless nights discussing the problem; after carefully weighing each point of advantage and disadvantage; after paying a visit to Goshen; we felt that it was the leading of the Lord for us to resign the Waterloo pastorate and accept the Goshen pastorate. We have learned to put our complete trust in the hands of God. Having done this, it semed that the pieces of the puzzle fell in their proper places.

We closed our pastorate in Wateroo, after almost six years of service, with the very best of relationships. We shall never forget our stay in that city, and in that Church. We had the very best of cooperation from the congregation, which we truly appreciated. Since this pastorate was our first full-time pastorate, the people in the Waterloo Church were very considerate and very kind, for there were many errors made on the part of the Pastor. Those people are very patient and very understanding. Credit must be given to that congregation for any improvement that was made in our ministry.

During our stay there, the people made many advancements in their Church and in their lives. Four of their young people are in Ashland College, two of which are definitely training for the ministry, another who hasn't decided completely, but is leaning toward that direction, and the other is in training for teaching. Truly, a wonderful group of young people. There are many, many wonderful things that could be said about the Waterloo people; space does not allow that, therefore let me say that we love those people as our very own!

You can readily see why it was so hard for us to make such a decision when the Goshen Church extended a call to us.

On Monday, October 24th, the movers came early to move us here. After lunch with the Max Lichtys, we left for Goshen, by way of Kansas. We arrived here on Friday, October 28th, after spending a few days with our folks in Fort Scott.

The people here had our furniture in place, and had redecorated the parsonage from top to bottom. Within a very few days, we were in the "swing" of things, and have been very busy ever since. And—we are learning that the people here are wonderful and are making us feel right at home. There is enthusiasm and a willingness to work being manifested on all sides. The attendance in every service is very good. We are especially thrilled with the work of the youth groups. The Intermediate Youth Group, under the direction of Lynn Stump and Mrs. Robert Miller, has been going ahead in every respect. Since coming here, a Senior Youth Group has been started under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Warner. Soon after the first of the year, a Junior Youth Group will be started under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. John Fry.

Dr. Joseph Shultz, Field Representative of the National Sunday School Association, spent some time with us in November, and the Sunday School here is making some definite plans for a better Sunday School. We truly appreciate the work which Rev. Shultz is doing.

It is my true conviction that Brethren people, no matter where they are, are the same, and are the best people in the world! This has been manifested to us in our pastorates at North Georgetown, Ohio and in Waterloo, Iowa, and is being manifested here in Goshen, Indiana. Pray for us, that the Lord will be able to use us in His great plan of spreading the Gospel of Christ.

Spencer Gentle.

MANTECA, CALIFORNIA

The church here seems to be off to a good start in operating under the new constitution, patterned from the suggested constitution contained in "The Brethren Pastor's Complete Handbook." On October 19 Brother Roger Stewart was called to the office of deacon, and Sisters Hazel Crom, Hattie Gall, and Ethel Aksland to the office of deaconess. These were ordained on Sunday, October 23, by Elders C. Y. Gilmer and Cecil Johnson.

A good word is due in behalf of all the officers and committees of our church, the Sunday school officiary and teaching staff, the morning worship choir, the young people's Sunday evening choir, the Christian Endeavor Societies, and the Woman's Missionary Society. The W. M. S. held its public service, December 11, presenting the play, "Songs In the Night," written by Mrs. Leslie Lindower. The same play was given at the recent District W. M. S. Rally held at the Lathrop Church. Our Sunday School superintendent, Brother Sidney Gall, has been holding successful monthly teachers' 7:00 o'clock breakfast meetings with lecturers on Sunday school work as guest speakers. The Sunday school annex has been paid for, and a new film strip projector and screen have been ordered through the National Sunday School Assaociation. Manteca is now on the 100 percent subscription list for THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST.

C. Y. Gilmer.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

"Man works from sun to sun, but a woman's work is never done."

NOT LONG SINCE, I arose to face a day of many perplexing problems. I set the coffee-maker, put the eggs in the water for soft boil, set the table, poured the orange juice; everything in readiness for my family's morning meal.

How many times have I done this? After living thirty-eight years in the same house, I must have gotten somewhere near to thirteen thousand, eight hundred and seventy breakfasts. My thoughts began to tumble and become turbulent, as I lash out at the sameness, the monotony.

Then I stop to reflect upon the countless number of times, I've awakened before the rest of the household stirs. I had sweet communion with my Father. His words ring in my ears. He puts a song in my heart, my step becomes light.

As I polish each copper bottom pan and return them in orderly fashion to their rack upon the wall, they look new, shining and beautiful. I thank my Father for the new day with its boundless opportunities for doing His will, just this one day.

"I have an anchor which keeps the soul, stedfast and sure while the billows roll. Fastened to the rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love."

"My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation: He is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory; the rock of my strength, and my refuge is in God. Trust in Him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us." Psalm 62:5-8.

Mrs. Ralph Smoker,
New Paris, Indiana.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates says in his bulletin: "As a result of last week's congregational meeting and balloting, the Board of Trustees were given an almost unanimous vote to go ahead with plans to have sketches drawn up for the proposed new educational annex to the Church."

Brother Bates spoke at the opening week of prayer service on January 1st. The Monday evening service was held in the Brethren Church.

A 24" bronze altar table cross was presented to the Church recently by the Young Married People's Class in memory of their late teacher, Arthur A. Arthur.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Special speakers recently were two of Waterloo's ministerial students at Ashland; December 25th, Marlin McCann; January 1st, Charles Huff.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. Guest speaker on December 25th was Rev. V. J. Boehringer.

WITH THE LAYMEN

NORTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT LAYMEN

The Laymen of the Northern District held their regular quarterly meeting in the Elkhart Brethren Church Dec. 5, 1955. A fine fellowship supper was prepared and served by the ladies of the church after which all retired to the sanctuary for the program and business meeting.

A welcome was extended to the men by Brother Louis Berger who led in singing two songs of a Christmas theme. Brother Berger also led in devotions.

Brother Whybrew introduced the speaker of the evening Mr. George Cooper who used as a subject "What a Layman expects of his Minister."

There were 158 men present for the business meeting, an offering of $122.00 was received to be applied on the Shipshewana fund. The next meeting will be held in the Goshen Church on March 5, 1956. The following are the new officers elected: President—John Porte, South Bend; Vice-President—Glenn Cripe, Warsaw; Sec.-Treas.—Richard Bert, Nappanee.

Everett L. Norris.

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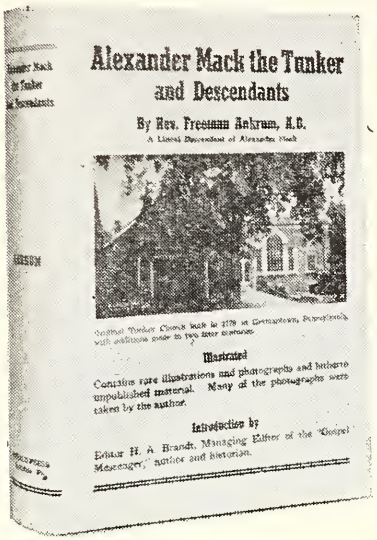

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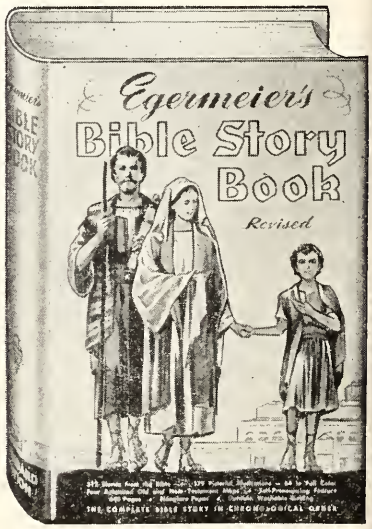

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Items of General Interest

GATEWOOD, W. VA. Hays Logan, who was recently licensed to preach by the Pennsylvania District Ministerial Board, through his home church, the Valley Brethren, Jones Mills, Penna., has been called to and has accepted the pastorate of the Gatewood Church.

SERGEANTSVILLE-CALVARY, NEW JERSEY. Mrs. Leona Wallace, Secretary of the Sergeantsville Church, writes to the Editor as follows: "The Sergeantsville and Calvary Churches in New Jersey have recently called Brother George Lindberg to their field. Brother and Sister Lindberg and children Richard and Faith Ann, are now occupying the parsonage, having begun their service with our church on January 1st.

"On Thursday evening, January 5th, the members and friends of both churches gave the Lindbergs a surprise "housewarming" and bountiful shower of supplies for their home and pantry."

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. The Brotherhood of Andrew and Peter held their public service the evening of January 8th. The sound film, "A Boy and His Bible," was shown as part of the program.

BERLIN, PENNA. Brother Lyle Lichtenberger notes the organization of a "Leadership Training Class for Laymen" which will meet weekly during the Sunday School hour until Easter. This Class is for those who are not able to attend the regular Monday evening sessions. Twenty-one are now registered, and Brother Lichtenberger notes they are hoping for at least 34.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. By a shifting of Sunday School Classes, a room has been made available for a Nursery Room. It is being equipped with suitable furniture, and will be cared for by some of the mothers of the Church.

JONES MILLS, VALLEY BRETHREN. A note from Brother Elmer M. Keck reads as follows: "A young mother and her daughter were received into Christian Fellowship at the morning Worship Service on January 8th. Twenty-five have been received into the Valley Brethren Church since our coming here. The membership of the church has thus increased 43%.

"The new hymnal, "Great Songs of the Church" Number two, were received last week, dedicated and used for the first time this morning. We are glad to have new song books again."

CANTON, OHIO, TRINITY BRETHREN. A Sunday School Contest, which will run for the calendar year of 1956, is under way at Canton. Points will be given for percentage of enrollment present, visitors and new scholars. Additional points will be given to each class which participates in the Cash Days.

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Brother William Fells reports that his injured leg is continually improving. He is now able to stand to preach. He hopes to have final examination and X-rays on January 20th.

Brother Fells wishes again to express his thanks to the Brotherhood for prayers in his behalf. He says that there has been a wonderful response.

(Continued on Page 15)

COMING EVENTS

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Evangelistic Campaign—**January 30th through February 12th.**—Rev. Henry Bates, Pastor-Evangelist.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

Monday, January 30th, 10:00 A. M.

Meyersdale, Pennsylvania

Program includes Membership Records, Roll Revision, and Church Finance. To present the latter, Dr. Shultz, Vice President of Wells Organization, a Christian fund raising organization, will be coming from Chicago.

Ministers are urged to bring a member of their Finance Committee, or some other leading layman from their churches with them to this meeting. Dr. Shultz will speak at 1:00 P. M.

A pot-luck dinner will be held at noon.

Horace Huse, Secretary.

The Editor's Pulpit

An All Time High

FIRST IN A SERIES

ANYONE WHO MAY HAVE any doubt about the trend and consumption of intoxicating beverages, n have all doubts removed by a study of the report of e sales of liquor during the week preceding Christmas 955.

A Correspondent in a leading Ohio newspaper says at "Ohioans spent more money for Christmas liquor in e week ending Christmas Eve than in any pre-holiday eek in history." The all-time high week's liquor bill was 1,426,625.00. THIS WAS 25% HIGHER THAN THE AME WEEK IN 1954. "The Christmas spirit binge," ys the writer, "also set a record in gallon sales." The act total was not available at the time but a close figure ven is 600,000 gallons. Without listing any further atistics, we are told that even without the figures of the st week of the year 1955, Ohioans had set a new record r the entire year.

Now, we have told you about our own state of Ohio. e have been honest with you. What about the state u live in? Have you read your newspapers and learned e awful truth about the liquor consumption in your ate? Are you ready for the jolt and the shock when e figures for the entire nation are released to you later this year?

Church people who voted years ago for repeal of the th amendment, or who did not trouble themselves to te at all at that time; Church people who did not, or o will not give support to local option efforts; Church ople who condone the liquor industry and who may en have the bottle in their homes— can take little comrt in the fact that this great nation experienced its orst year of liquor consumption and drunkenness in its story in 1955.

We were all appalled the day following Christmas to arn that the United States had experienced its worst liday week-end in traffic accidents and deaths. Tons paper and ink, hours of radio and television time have en spent in warning Americans of the awful tragic toll our highways. Still, in spite of it all—in spite of the any safety features built into our automobiles and highays, the traffic toll continues to mount.

Does it not strike a somber note in your mind to note at the worst holiday week-end traffic toll followed the eek in which "——spent more money for Christmas uor in the week ending Christmas Eve than in any e-holiday week in history?"

Accident reports do not often show the evidence of liquor as a contributing cause, because it is not the dead drunk driver who causes the accidents—rather the ones who have had a social drink, or two, or three, and who by the time "tests" are made, or evidence is being collected, has sobered to the degree where "it does not appear that the driver had been drinking."

It is the contention of this Editor, that drinking plays a far greater part in the cause of highway accidents than is ever revealed. Adding to what we have said in the paragraph just above this one, is the natural instinct for a human being to avoid accident and to want to stay alive—which in this day of modern cars with a host of safety features for avoiding accidents, makes accidents by sane and sober drivers almost a remote possibility!

For instance—a person using the highway is going some place. He is going to be aware of traffic conditions, highway conditions, and he is going to use good common sense, because he does not want an accident. He is going to be alert and responsive, and, through the many safety features built into his vehicle, he is going to negotiate his journey safely. But cloud his mind with the dulling effects of alcohol, make him feel that he is king and the world is his—then his caution and judgment is gone, and he hurdles that car down the highway endangering his life and the lives of others. That's drunken driving! The safest highway and the most safely built car cannot cope with it.

The same can be said of a husband or wife's conduct in their home. Brutal beatings, infidelity, destruction of furniture, etc., can be traced to a person's lack of reasoning and feeling of superiority when he or she has liquor in their system. How often do we hear the words, following a shooting or beating, "I didn't know what I was doing?"

Considering the growing tragic consequences of our rising alcoholic consumption, don't you think it is about time the Church took a more positive position regarding the presence of this traffic in our communities? As one of our good Brethren has noted in his Sunday bulletin: "Statistics show that 10,000 people are killed every 6 months by liquor where only 1 is killed by a mad dog; yet we shoot the dog and license the liquor—somehow it just doesn't make good sense."

(In the next in this series, we will list some reasons we feel has caused this tremendous upsurge in liquor consumption in our land.)—W. S. B.

Moderator's Address 1955 Mid-West District Conference

Rev. Edwin M. Puterbaugh

The Glorious Vision

(Text: Proverbs 29:18)

GREETINGS to the Brethren Churches of the Midwest District. Mrs. Puterbaugh and I regret that we cannot be with you in person this year, but you can be sure that we shall be with you in spirit. We trust that you will have an inspiring and challenging conference and that you will return to your various churches fired with new zeal for the work of the Lord in the year ahead. In my absence, Vice-Moderator Stogsdill has kindly agreed to read my address to you.

* * *

Far too often, when you ask someone how his church is progressing, the person will say something like this: "Oh, we're doing fine. We have a grand new building with thick carpets, a fine electric organ, indirect lighting and padded pews." How much better it would be if we would measure the progress of our churches more in terms of spiritual advancement such as increases in attendance at the midweek meeting, increases in membership, increases in the number of tithers, etc. We ought to constantly remind ourselves that although man looks on the outside, God is more concerned about the condition of our hearts, our souls, and our minds.

When Solomon spoke the immortal words: "Where there is no vision, the people perish," he was addressing himself to a people who had, under his direction, built a magnificent temple, which was perhaps the most elaborate edifice ever constructed. We cannot tell for sure how mu it cost, but it apparently cost many millions. One mi think that with such a place of worship to inspire the the Jewish people would never have been able to for God and all His goodness to them. But soon their wors became, for them, a mere formality. They had lost glorious vision which God had set before them—the vis of a great nation led by God and obedient to His will, a because of her obedience, prosperous and happy, sec in the knowledge that God would deliver her from any all of her enemies.

The situation in which many of our churches today themselves is not materially different from the plight the ancient Hebrews. One of the reasons why many of churches both in this district and in other districts making so little progress is that they have lost sight the glorious vision which God has set before us of w His church ought to be and can be if we will but let I direct her into the paths of service and dedication wl He would have us follow.

I have already mentioned the danger of having too terialistic a conception of the church. Along with this goes the danger of allowing ourselves to become so occupied with church machinery and the many detail operating the church that our worship, both public private, may become a mere formality.

To be sure, we need officials and leaders, we need c mittees, and we need planning, in order that we ma able to make a systematic approach to the problems face, and in order that we may promote the growth development of our churches. But we also need to re that people are individuals and no two can be handle exactly the same way. If we are to win souls to C and to His church, we must recognize human values individual differences. This means that we must lay

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(The 1955 Mid-West Conference met at Mulvane, Kansas, in October.)

ır petty prejudices and whims, for they might conceivbly stand in the way of our winning souls.

Many years ago our church broke with the Mother hurch over the issue of marks of separation. We felt ıat the matter of separation was a thing of the heart ıther than an external affair. We did not see the need f dressing differently from others in order to prove ourelves Christians. Down through the years our attitudes ›ward many things have changed considerably. I can reıember when my mother wondered if it would be right › cut her hair, yet today there are very few of our good sters who do not cut their hair. And I believe that in ıany cases a woman's hair is more truly her "crowning lory" when it is kept at a reasonable length than when is allowed to become so long it is difficult to arrange ttractively. So it has been with other customs of our eople as well. What once was outlawed or at least rowned upon today is generally approved, or at least acepted.

Of all the districts of our church, I believe the Midwest ; in the gravest danger of perishing. There are at present nly two or three churches in the district which really eem to be getting anywhere. Some of the trouble, to be ure, has come as a result of past mistakes. Other facors involved such as drought, grasshopper invasions, and ıe like, we have had no control over, yet, as a result, ıany of our young people have become discouraged and ıoved away to an area where they could make a decent ving.

Since it does not appear likely that for the most part ıere will be any considerable influx of population into ıost of the areas where we have churches, we must be ll the more determined to hold our young people. If e fail to do this, our churches will surely die.

In order to hold our young people, we need not comromise our position theologically in the least. But we eed to be careful lest we confuse the "traditions of men" ith the teachings of the Bible. We also need to realize ıat while the basic principles taught in the Bible are ıst as valid today as ever, the application today may in ertain cases have to be quite different from that which as appropriate in Bible times. For instance, many of the eachings of St. Paul were in respect to specific situations; ıerefore, we must interpret what he says in the light f present day circumstances, always asking ourselves hich way will most likely build up our church. There is eldom a perfect solution to any problem. We usually will ave to weigh alternative against alternative and prayerılly decide which is the better or best way.

Once we have a vision of a bigger and better church n fire for the Lord, we shall realize the necessity of aving certain basic rules to follow in order to accomplish ıis end. Let us consider briefly a few of the more imortant ones.

First of all, we need to realize that the church is a deıocracy and should function as such. No one person or ique can be allowed to run it. Nor should the young eople be crowded out of positions of leadership just beause they have had less experience. In fact, it is absoıtely imperative that the young people be gradually iven positions of leadership, for, if they are not, chaos vill result when the older hands are no longer able to old the responsible positions.

In the second place, we need to realize that the minister is called of God to preach the gospel, and, therefore, is not responsible to anyone but God for what he preaches. Moreover, the minister deserves the respect of every member, regardless of how any member may feel personally towards him. I believe that God will hold any minister accountable for intentional perversion of the Bible teaching, but I think also that God will hold any church member accountable who deliberately mistreats a minister of the gospel.

Thirdly, we need to realize that preachers and their wives are human beings and have every right to be treated as such. They should never be expected to live in surroundings which are unpleasant, inconvenient or unhealthful. The parsonage should be as modern and as attractive as the people can afford to make it. Too many churches think that the preacher ought to be satisfied to live in a place that many members would be ashamed to live in. Actually, the minister can hardly be expected to put out his best efforts if he is constantly harrassed by leaky plumbing, inadequate lighting, or an antiquated heating plant.

Ministers' salaries are much too low in the Brethren Church as a whole and in most of the Midwest churches. I believe this is a very unwholesome and undesirable situation, for how can a minister do his best work if he is constantly worried as to how he will be able to meet all his financial obligations? The Brethren Church is making an effort to give the ministry financial security in later life through the retirement plan, but so poorly paid are many of our ministers that they can scarcely spare the five percent, or even the three percent for social security. Many of our Ministers today are forced to take other jobs to supplement their income, or, in some cases, the wives work. This should not be, and would not have to be in most cases, if our people would tithe as they should.

In the fourth place, we need to emphasize personal dedication and devotion to Christ more strongly than denominational loyalty. I say this advisedly because, although the Brethren Church is probably the best expression of the teachings of Christ and of the apostles, from my own experience I have come to the conclusion that over-emphasis of Brethren ordinances and the distinctive Brethren

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MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistan

THE GARBER MEMORIAL CHURCH

This is a brief message from the Garber Memorial Church. We thank you for your support in our program of calling a full-time pastor and enlarging the work, both in a physical and spiritual sense.

To date, we can report the following:

1. We have experienced a steady increase in attendance and witnessed the spiritual growth of those attending.

2. Our auxiliary organizations are functioning commendably: both Junior and Senior Sisterhoods, Boys' Brotherhood, Signal Lights, W. M. S. (which has doubled its membership since August—now 18 members), a fine choir with ten members and a minister of music, and a well-organized Sunday school. Now the Laymen are talking of organizing.

3. We are holding mid-week Bible study and prayer services, with an average attendance of eight.

4. We have held one service of dedication for infants.

5. We have added one new member by letter.

6. We sanded the floors and finished them with a gym-floor finish. The labor and sander were donated by the laymen and the finish was paid for from the church treasury.

7. Rent for the parsonage at 232 Sherman Avenue has been paid from our treasury since the first of September. This is $65.00 per month.

8. A tower public address system for chimes has been installed, the money being given by the B. Y. C. We are now building a chime record library.

9. During the last month we watched our building fun grow to the amount of $2,000 in cash and pledges $400.00 cash gift from Mrs. B. F. Zercher; $600.00, a a loan from Mrs. L. L. Burns, to be repaid by the mem bers and friends of the Garber Memorial Church; $1,00 from the members and friends of the church in cash o pledges to be paid during the coming year. This is fron those who are now attending the services at the Garbe Memorial Church. The money will be used to build a addition over the present basement room. We will hav two Sunday school rooms 9' x 12' and a rostrum 16½' 10'. Then the church is to be completely rewired, wit new light fixtures, and a lighted cross above the pulpit WORK ON THIS ADDITION WAS STARTED JANU ARY 5, 1956.

10. In August the Laymen's Organization of the Par Street Church installed double doors in the front of th Church, of the interior type, believing that a vestibul was to be added.

11. In October a new set of exterior doors was in stalled by the Garber laymen, due to a change in plan not using the vestibule arrangement, at least for th present. The weather was damaging the interior-typ doors, but they will be used in the new addition an will not be a loss to us.

12. Plans are made for evening preaching services t begin January 8, 1956.

This is just a resume of our first six months' wor with a full-time pastor, and we want again to expre our appreciation for your prayers and financial ar moral support.

—William Fells, Pastor.

LETTERS FROM ARGENTINA

(From Harold E. Stacey, with whom Rob Byler works on the radio program)

Dec. 5, 1955

Dear Mr. Berkshire:

Another year is coming to its end and we can truly say as the Psalmist, "The Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting." At this time, we (my associates and I) wish to express to you and the Missionary Board our heart-felt thanks for your most generous, spontaneous and practical help in proclaiming the Word of Life through radio to the millions in these southern parts of South America.

Thousands of souls have been reached with messages of the Gospel twice a week throughout this year. Since we began this cooperative work, hundreds of souls have passed from darkness into light eternal by this means.

Never before has this world of ours needed the Gosp as today. Millions are without Christ, passing into Ete nity without the slightest hope of mercy—lost! Why Was it because I did not do my part? Let this never l so; let me redeem the time while yet there is light.

What a high privilege we hold in being "sons of God As sons of the Almighty we have been made His amba sadors through the finished work of Christ on the cro Let us all be worthy of this distiction by fulfilling o daily duty in making known to all mankind the will our Heavenly Father, while there is yet time.

The Radio—our opportunity

Radio offers a challenge that no other single effort c today. Millions of homes are reached simultaneously w the message of love, backed with sincere prayer of ma

of the Lord's people every time the programs are on the air. This mass reaching of lost souls has been made possible through your most generous kindness all through his year. Our sincere prayer to our Heavenly Father is hat He may richly reward everyone accordingly.

Since last writing to you many new happenings have aken place here. Something we had all felt impossible as taken place: the fall of the Peron regime. A man overed with power and lust has fallen; a government of orruption as never known here before no longer exists. When he felt he was almost God, he fell suddenly and gnominiously—and his satellites with him.

We cannot commit ourselves just yet by saying that ve enjoy complete freedom, because we don't; but the general feeling is that as days go on, freedom will be restored to all parties alike. Although some kinds of restrictions may have to be imposed to preserve order, we personally feel it is only a matter of time and we shall all be enjoying the freedom we once experienced.

We all feel grateful for the valuable help that Bob and Jane Byler have been to the work here. They have certainly done a good job, and we are dependent on them for the future as the activities increase. We are now planning, as the Lord may provide the means, to begin a regular weekly children's radio broadcast . . .

. . . As I close, we all wish to unite once again and express to you all the gratitude in our hearts for your most generous and faithful kindness during 1955, and we look forward to 1956, if the Lord tarry, for even greater service.

Yours in the Master's glorious service,

Harold E. Stacey.

(Mr. Stacey is a fine Christian business man, the Exchange Manager for one of Argentina's largest industrial concerns. He is one of the largest supporters of the evangelical radio broadcast in which Rob Byler assists.)

TITHER'S SURPRISE

The Christian who begins to tithe will have at east six surprises. He will be surprised at:

1. The amount of money he has for the Lord's vork.
2. The deepening of his spiritual life in paying the tithe.
3. The ease in meeting his own obligations with he nine-tenths.
4. The ease in going from one-tenth to larger giving.
5. The preparation this gives to be a faithful and wise steward over the nine-tenths that remain.
6. Himself for not adopting the plan sooner.

World Service Bulletin.

THE GLORIOUS VISION

(Continued from Page 5)

doctrines may lead to a mere formal profession without, apparently, any real conversion experience. I believe in all the Brethren ordinances, and I think that we should instruct our people in them regularly. But we must not teach something which is not true—namely, that only Brethren can be saved or that only those who are baptized by trine immersion can be sure of heaven. The Bible does not warrant such a belief, so we ought not to teach it. But this we must teach—that only those who have been baptized by the Holy Spirit are saved and are bound for heaven.

* * *

The fifth rule we need to follow is to stress stewardship, not only of money, but of time and talents as well. We need to stress tithing from an early age. Many churches give envelopes to children as soon as they join the church, thereby encouraging systematic giving and helping the babe in Christ form the habit of tithing, so that it will be the natural thing for him to continue doing throughout life. If all our churches would follow this plan or a similar one, our financial problems would be far less and our program could be greatly expanded through the additional funds available.

Lastly, we need to allocate as large a portion as possible of our church income to home and foreign missions. It has been well said that a mission-minded church is a church on fire for the Lord. A number of our young people have recently dedicated their lives to the mission field, and we dare not let them down by refusing to furnish the funds needed for their preparation, their transportation, and their field work. These young missionaries are counting on us, but if we fail them, they will have to turn elsewhere for help. Moreover, others who might be so inclined, will likely change their plans if they see that the Brethren are not going to come through with the necessary funds.

When we read the Great Commission in the Bible, we are reminded that we are not to limit our efforts to the confines of our own country. We are to send the gospel good news out to the four corners of the world that men and women may be saved and thereby reconciled to God. When we realize that this is the most important function of the church, then we shall begin to catch the vision which can and will make possible the bigger and better church we all desire.

In Proverbs 29:18, we read these words: "Where there is no vision, the people perish." It is my fervent prayer that the people of the Midwest District will catch the vision of what God can make of His church before it is too late; for if they fail, not only will they lose the blessing God has in store for them, but souls may perish because of their failure. Let us not fail God! Let us catch the glorious vision and cling to it!

"Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace."

Huntington, Indiana.

Sunday School Suggestions by Joseph R. Shultz

(Sponsored by the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church)

1955 CAMP REPORT FROM NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD'S REPRESENTATIVE

Walter and Wadena Wertz

Luke 2:52—"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man." As our Lord and Master stressed in His earthly life the four-fold life, so does our Brethren summer camps.

CERTAINLY THE 1955 CAMPING SEASON was a real uplift for many of our Brethren young people. The Brethren Church is realizing and will continue to realize the importance of our summer camping program. Many of our present day leaders in our churches were former campers, and it is practically certain that many of the future leaders will have had camping experience.

It was our privilege again to work in our Brethren camps this past summer. June was the month of more intense preparation for camps and the starting of our travels.

The first Brethren camp we attended was the Ohio Camp ZION near Canton, Ohio. This camp is certainly growing under the capable leadership of Bro. John Byler. His untiring efforts are realized as you see the camp in progress. His able corps of co-workers obtain results. Bro. Robert Hoffman served again as Dean in the Junior Camp. Two former Penna. Camp Juniata workers were on the staff—the Andersons.

We appreciated hearing Janet King one evening at Vespers. It was the first we had seen her since she returned from Africa. It was kind of Bro. L. V. King to bring Janet to camp and certainly the youngsters as well as the older folk enjoyed hearing her speak. (Campers really enjoyed the free time made possible by the new dish washer).

The following two weeks found us in the Penna. Camp JUNIATA. Bro. Lichtenberger and Bro. Brant were Camp Deans. This camp had a decrease in enrollment from last year, but it was a good camp. The spirit among the campers and staff was exceptionally good. Bro. Leatherman's class of counselors and young people was very interesting. The campers enjoyed Bro. Keck's pictures of Camp Juniata; also the travel and educational film shown on rainy evenings.

Surely a high light of the Senior Camp was the fact a young man, formerly a Catholic and a camper for several years, who helped at the waterfront this year, made his confession of Christ as his Savior. He was baptized by Bro. Keck in the river in the presence of the campers and staff. This fellow is now a student at Ashland College.

The usual big events included the hike, picnic supper, candle float, candle light, and the always inspiring vespers in the woods. Bro. Jones made his trip to camp to teach the adult Sunday School lesson and deliver the morning sermon.

It is gratifying to see former campers, now students at Ashland, coming back to Camp Juniata to help on the staff. Even one of our cooks came back from Ashland! The cooks here are our own Brethren women, and we do appreciate what these fine women do for our camp. Most of them have been with us for years. This means so much in the success of the camp.

It was back home to wash, iron and repack. Then to Camp PINNACLES in the South-East District. Brothers Klingensmith and Ludwig have really brought this camp a long way. This was a big camp with campers of all ages enjoying the week together here. When we arrived the only place left for us to "bunk" was on the floor. However, Wadena had the air mattress and I had a little pad. The floor was rather hard, but we lived through it and enjoyed our stay and the opportunity to work with these good people. Brother Klingensmith's candle light service was very effective as many made their confession of Christ and some went forward for full-time service.

Our S. S. Board's Field Representative, Dr. Joseph Shultz and his wife, Doris, were on the staff in this camp. What a difference it makes in a camp when you have enough workers! Mr. Swartz, the craft man, surely had the campers, yes and even some of the staff busy making bird houses, dogs, etc.

The following week was our District Conference, so some time was spent there. Then the next week we headed for the midwest—where we expected a hot welcome from the weatherman. He didn't disappoint us.

Brothers Burton and Puterbaugh had charge here. As soon as we arrived we were conscious of the fact that much planning and preparation had been done beforehand. Things moved along very nicely under Dean Burton whom we have learned to know and love in the Lord. Wadena and I were on the teaching staff and helped out wherever we could . . . Wadena as camp nurse and yours truly in charge of recreation.

Everyone thought for sure this year we would not have any water trouble, since we saw the picture in the Brethren Youth Magazine of the new well up on the hill. But wouldn't you know it, the day following the opening of camp, we were warned of the water shortage. Result—water for kitchen from the well, but other water had to

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ASHLAND SEMINARY NEWS

Conducted by Ashland Theological Seminary

SEMINARY MEN'S CHORUS SINGS

This newly formed chorus announced previously in this column, made its debut on the college chapel program recently. The men were very impressive as they presented the Christmas story in word and song. All of the men have had good voice training in college and now they are able to use that talent to good advantage in graduate school.

CHRISTMAS PARTY A SUCCESS

The annual Seminary Christmas party was pronounced a success by the enthusiastic audience in attendance. Each month the Seminary student body sponsors a party for all students on the campus, but the Christmas party is something special. Extra decorations, appropriate games, fine food and a more elaborate program mark this event as outstanding on the school calendar. President Donald Rowser and his committee are to be commended for the work.

DR. HAROLD KUHN SPECIAL SPEAKER

Ashland College sponsors a Christian Emphasis Week in each school year. During this special week students get an opportunity to hear an outstanding Christian speaker and to discuss problems of mutual interest with the guidance of a fine Christian leader. This year, Dr. Harold Kuhn, of Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky, will be at Ashland to speak and to lead discussions. Dean Flora has announced that Dr. Kuhn will speak to the Seminary and be available for private conferences. Dr. Kuhn is one of the most outstanding Christian men in America. His Christian outreach is evidenced by the fact that he spends his summers each year working in refugee camps in Germany. Your institution is proud to bring men of such calibre to speak to students.

PRAYERS FOR MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES URGED

It is obvious to most Christians that the need for ministers and missionaries is great in all denominations. Taking our lead from Jesus who said, "pray ye for laborers" we are urging you to pray earnestly that God will send laborers into the white harvest fields. After you have prayed, then aid your prayer by seeking out young people who may be interested in Christian service. A word from you may be the means of helping some young person decide on his call from God.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

THE FREEDOM OF GREAT THINGS

"Come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, but . . . without money and without price." Isaiah 55:1.

HAVE YOU EVER sat down and tried to think of the host of great and precious things in life that are absolutely free? Things with which we are perfectly acquainted, but of whose worth we have given little thought. How about fresh air, sunshine, the stars, the sunrises and sunsets of the days as they pass, the majesty of the mountains as they rear their peaks above the clouds, moonlight on land and sea, a mother's love, the heart of a friend, the laughter of a little child, the deeds of devotion at home and abroad; the love of God, the glory of the cross, the inner compulsion to goodness. On none of these can Wall Street set a price. And all of them will outlast the things for which man spends fortunes, only to be disappointed after he has them and finds how hollow and worthless they are.

And, too, the things for which the world barters its coins are those objects which, when they are once acquired and stored away in hope of retaining for future use, and satisfaction in the fact of possession, are found to have deteriorated in value and to have lost their luster and attraction. It is the invitation to acquire priceless things—things that contribute to the prolonging of life, indispensible things, without exchange of value.

Here also may be added the Master's admonition, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal."

Here, then, are two suggestions: the placing of supreme values on things that abide (both earthly and heavenly); and the depositing of the soul values of life in the vaults of heaven. And forget not that these "worth-while things" are free.

News From Our Churches

NEWS FROM NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

From time to time friends throughout the brotherhood ask us how we find the work of the pastorate again after approximately six years spent in teaching in our seminary. Our reply to this question is always, "Challenging, and rewarding," which we believe to be true of any work definitely inspired by, and devoted to, the Lord Jesus Christ. We accepted the call to this pastorate because we felt that it presented one of the finest challenges in the Brotherhood, and because we felt that an active, all-out program for the Lord would bring forth wonderful results and rewards. In neither of these assumptions have we been disappointed.

Many of the events and signs of progress which have come to pass here within the past seven months have been reported in the "Interesting Items" column of our **Brethren Evangelist** through the gracious cooperation and help of our good friend and editor, Brother W. S. Benshoff. We are taking this opportunity, and means, to say a little more about the challenges and the rewards about which we spoke above.

While teaching our young men in the seminary this writer (as did all of the seminary professors) stressed the importance and the effectiveness of plain, Bible preaching. In our ministry here we have attempted to "practice what we preached" with most encouraging results. As the people of Israel discovered in Nehemiah's day; as the people of Asia Minor discovered in Paul's day; as the people of Germany discovered in Luther's day; as the people of England discovered in Wesley's and Whitefield's day; as the people of America discovered in Moody's day; and as the people of the world are discovering in Billy Graham's day—so we are discovering in North Manchester in our day, that "the Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

Seldom does a week go by that we do not hear somebody say as they leave the church, "It seems good to hear those old-fashioned Bible sermons again," or, in the case of visitors who are frequently in our midst, "We don't hear that kind of preaching in our church any more." We have also been encouraged in this direction by the fact that in a college community, where many folks seem to feel that the church must present a more-up-to-date" or "scholarly" message, this plain presentation of Bible truth is appealing to the college students. Despite the fact that there are only eight Brethren young people enrolled at the college here this year—and the great majority of these eight return to their home churches over the weekends—we have discovered in speaking to our fellow pastors in the city that we have the largest college-student attendance of any church in the community with the exception of the college church. It is a source of real encouragement to the preacher to hear these young folks say from time to time, "We like to come to this church because you stick to the Bible." We mention these things, not to boast, but rather to add our word of testimony to that of Brethren preachers through the years, that "The Bible, the Whole Bible, and Nothing but the Bible," still is the need of the hour.

Another of our major emphases here during the past months has been upon arousing interest in a full-time church program for all age groups within the church. Pastors and church leaders cannot sit back and lament over the inroads which television and outside organizations are making into our congregations if those pastors and church leaders do not at least try to provide a church program which will interest enough people enough of the time during the week that these outside interests become secondary in the lives of the people. During the past few months the program here has been steadily growing until it now includes—besides Sunday School and morning worship service—a flourishing mid-week prayer and Bible study hour, a Children's Bible Hour (meeting at the same time as the mid-week service), two active Brethren Youth Crusader organizations, monthly "Assistants' Day" in our Sunday School, monthly Sunday School Class night in our evening service, a monthly after-service evening fellowship hour, and an extensive visitation program. Then, in addition to these features we have the usual church auxiliaries—W. M. S., Laymen's Organization, Junior and Senior Sisterhood, and a number of monthly class meetings. As a result of this full time program the church has a much greater opportunity to be of service and also a much greater opportunity of becoming the center, rather than the rim, of the congregation's life. The response of the brethren here to this active program has more than justified any effort and planning which have gone into it. The local papers have been quite generous in helping to promote and publicize this growing program, and frequently outside folks remark about the fact that "things are really happening at The Brethren Church."

The church of Jesus Christ cannot compete with the world in the type of program it offers to men and women, but the church can offer men and women something that the World cannot give to them. It is upon this principle that our full-time program is built.

This writer has long felt that a congregation that is active in denominational matters, and a congregation that is "sold" on its denominational program, is usually the most active in its own area. Consequently we have, during these past seven months, emphasized Brethren teachings and practices as they relate to the Scriptural teachings. Tithing as the beginning of Christian stewardship; the confession of faith and acceptance of Christ, rather than the "joining the church" emphasis; the regular extending of the invitation; an evangelistic appeal in all of the services of the church; and an emphasis upon the separated life.

The brethren here have responded to this program in a most encouraging fashion. Sunday School attendance is fourteen percent higher than the same seven months last year; the Morning Worship service is very well attended; evening service attendance for this period has averaged eighty-six despite warnings from fellow-pastors in the town that evening services do not "take" in North Manchester; and our mid-week service has averaged thirty-

five per week over these seven months—the largest midweek service attendance of any of the churches in the city.

As we face 1956 we look for even greater accomplishments in the Lord's work here, including a much-needed educational annex. The challenges are great, the rewards are great, but the promises of the Master are even greater. We solicit the prayers of the brotherhood that He might continue to lead and bless us.

Henry Bates, Pastor.

REVIVAL AT COUNTY LINE

We have been praying for a revival in our "Hour of Power" service each week, and have shared our prayer list together which made a large prospect list. This list was mimeographed so that anyone in the church could have access to the list of names. Earnest prayer is the first step toward a successful revival. The first church in Acts 2:43 "continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in PRAYERS." This is a perfect plan for us to follow today!

As an answer to all our prayers there were four conversions and three rededications on the two Sundays prior to our meeting.

We were privileged to have Rev. and Mrs. Harry Richer of Peru, Ind. as our Evangelists, November 16-27. They have been in Evangelistic work for thirty-five years. They brought a lot of challenges, joy and zeal to our people through their fine singing and preaching. Special nights were observed such as "Precious Promise Night," "Women and Girls Night," "Family Night," "Men and Boys' Night." On Sunday School Night twenty-five Sunday School officers and teachers came forward for rededication. On Youth Night thirty youth came forward for rededication of their lives.

Rev. Richer preaches the Word with much sincerity and fervor. His messages have stirred our hearts to be more earnest in our Christian living. Quite a few have shown greater interest in worship since the revival. The unsaved are hard to reach during a revival, but if the Church folk become revived then the unsaved will take notice and come to receive Christ as their own. ACTS 2:47, AND HAVING FAVOR WITH ALL THE PEOPLE, THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH DAILY SUCH AS SHOULD BE SAVED.

We were happy for the response of neighboring churches with their delegations and special music. This warms the hearts of all Christians. Local churches responding were the LaPaz Union and Church of God, Pine Creek Church of the Brethren and then our Teegarden, Tiosa, Ardmore, North Liberty and South Bend Brethren. Many folk came from the Plymouth area as the Richers are well known there. Our own church responded nightly with special music also. We are happy for many who are willing to use their talents.

We were privileged to have the Richers stay in our home. Much spiritual help came from them. Sixty-four calls were made during their presence here and the Richers were called away three times for funeral services. Much encouragement and spiritual help came from the Richers! Only time and eternity will tell the entire results. God promises that if the seed is sown there will always be a harvest. We appreciate that other churches have been praying for our efforts here. Continue to pray as we are expecting great victories this year!

Herbert Gilmer, Pastor.

NEWS FROM FREMONT, OHIO

We brethren would like to share with you some of the many blessings that have been ours recently so that you may rejoice with us. God has so wonderfully answered prayers and prospered the work in this part of His vineyard.

On Nov. 6, the annual homecoming service was held at the church. Rev. D. B. Flora was the guest speaker. A Men's Gospel Team from the college and seminary supplied special music which was much appreciated. After Rev. Flora's inspiring and challenging morning message some sixty brethren gathered in the church basement to enjoy a delicious meal and Christian fellowship. Following the meal, Rev. Flora presented some of his colored slides of the Holy Land in which he has traveled on several occasions. Seventy were in attendance to benefit from this service. This figure represented our peak attendance since the reopening of this church in March, 1955. However, we were soon to rejoice again over a broken record in attendance as around one hundred gathered at the church Thursday night, Dec. 22nd., for our Christmas program. We are proud of our young people for they put on a fine program of recitations and a Christmas play entitled "Following the Star."

We do not wish that anyone should think that we consider numbers necessarily an indication of success in the work of the Lord. We set forth these numerical figures for the purpose of indicating that there are many here in Fremont still interested in the Brethren Church, and worthy of your prayers.

The Woman's Missionary Society has been reorganized with some eighteen interested ladies. The girls have organized into a Sisterhood of Mary and Martha with seventeen members. A dozen boys have organized and called themselves the Christian Scouts. Next on our organizational plans is a Laymen's organization which we hope to have in the near future.

The work has been well financed by the brethren here because many are consecrated tithers. We appreciate the financial help of the Ohio District Mission Board.

One of the greatest needs at the present, for which we request prayer, is that funds may be found to purchase a second-hand bus in order that we may reach out to the unchurched areas.

There is a great and needy field here in Fremont, Ohio. We rejoice that we have been called to serve here. With the prayers of you consecrated brethren behind us, enthusiastic Christians here to help us, and God's constant guidance and blessing, we shall build for eternity and seek the lost to win.

Kenneth L. Solomon, Pastor.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C Y Gilmer

NEEDED: HEARTS BURDENED FOR SINNERS

CONCERN FOR SINNERS is not a natural but a spiritual desire instilled by the Holy Spirit for the salvation of the lost (Psalm 126:5, 6). To be a tender and earnest soul winner one is motivated by a holy compassion engendered by grace (Jude 22, 23). We need to be moved by the tragic truth about sin and its punishment (Matt. 3:10-12). As Christian workers we need to realize that there is something for souls to be saved from (Matt. 5:22, 29, 30). Imitation of conversion and the new birth will not do (Matt. 13:40-42). Without the robe of Christ's righteousness one is doomed for "outer darkness" (Matt. 22:13).

Not to carry out the great commission (Matt. 28: 19, 20) is to be guilty of grave disobedience. A Christian is to be fruitful (Prov. 11:30; John 15:4, 5). He is to be a light, not hid, the salt of the earth, a Spirit-filled witness (Matt. 5:13, 14). If following Christ means anything He will make us fishers of men (Matt. 4:19). If we are not fruit-bearing Christians, it may be that the cares of this world are too much with us (Luke 8:14). God expects us to sacrifice the associations of dear ones (Luke 14:16), and our property, if need be, to win souls for Him (Matt. 6:21). A multitude of professed Christians will have the answer for the unevangelized world (Ezek. 33:7, 8). The field is ripe (John 4:35, 36), and God holds us responsible. Are we proving faithful (Matt. 24:44-46)? Have we consecrated ourselves to the work (Rom. 12:1)?

"A hundred thousand souls a day
Are passing one by one away
In Christless guilt and gloom,
Without one ray of hope or light.
With future dark as endless night
They are passing to their doom.

"The Master's coming draweth near,
The Son of man will soon appear,
His kingdom is at hand.
But ere that glorious day can be
This Gospel of the Kingdom we
Must preach in every land.

"O let us then His coming haste
O let us end this awful waste
Of souls that never die.
A thousand million still are lost
A Saviour's blood has paid the cost
O hear their dying cry.

"They are passing, passing fast away
A hundred thousand souls a day
In Christless guilt and gloom.
O Church of Christ, what wilt thou say
When in the awful judgment day
They charge thee with their doom?"

To win others we need to show them that all are lost and need a Saviour (Isaiah 53:6; Rom. 3:10, 23), present Jesus as Saviour and Lord (John 3:14-18; Acts 16:30, 31), that there is but one Saviour of the soul (Acts 4:12), and explain the death of Christ (John 19; 1 John 1:7; Isaiah 53).

Teach the new convert how to avoid a wasted life (1 Cor. 3:9-17) by having him to publicly confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33; Rom. 10:9), be baptized (Acts 2:38) and line up with the church (Acts 2:47), work for Jesus (Eph. 2:10), worship God (Rev. 19:4, 10), honor the Lord with his substance (1 Cor. 16:2), be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18), study the Bible (2 Tim. 2:15), win souls (Matt. 4:19), pray (1 Thess. 5:17), be happy (1 Thess. 5:16), and always put Jesus first (Matt. 10; Lu. 14).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson For January 29, 1956

GOD'S CONCERN FOR SINNERS

Lesson: Luke 15:1-10

GOD'S CONCERN ought to be our concern. The lesson topic states that God is concerned for the sinner. This clearly implies that we are to manifest the same compassion for those who are lost in sin.

The world should rejoice in the marvellous truth of God's undying love for lost humanity. Concern is not unusual. It is manifest every day. The mother is concerned for her child; the husband for his wife; the teacher for the pupil.

What, then, makes God's concern for sinners so unique? "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8.)

The wonderful love of God is seen in His concern for men who are at enmity with Him. Those who are indifferent—callous—sacrilegious—abusive!

Christ's love and concern was shown at His mock trial before Pilate and His accusers. It was seen in His attitude toward those who buffeted Him and spat upon Him. It was revealed in His dying words: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

The parable of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin was spoken by Christ because the sanctimonious Scribes and Pharisees could not understand why He would condescend to eat with publicans and sinners. "Of course I eat with sinners," Jesus would say to them. "Do you not know the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which is lost?"

Missing in this present generation of weak, vacillating Christians is that burning passion for the souls of men!

The passion of a David Brainerd, who in a brief three or four years of missionary endeavor among the Indians of the Hudson River Valley, so manifested the Spirit of Christ that he was able to influence Henry Martyn and William Carey to go as missionaries to the land of India. The passion of a Robert Moffat willing to devote 53 years of his life as a servant of God in South Africa; and of a David Livingstone who, according to Dr. R. H. Glover, travelled 11,000 miles **entirely on foot** during his first four years in Africa in order that he might carry the Gospel to those who had not heard!

If this passage of Scripture reveals nothing else, it brings to light this truth: Jesus realized that men are interested in a lost **sheep**, or a lost **coin**, but care little for a lost **soul!**

Such is the condemnation of our age—and, most tragic of all, even of the church!

NATIONAL S. S. ASSOCIATION

(Continued from Page 8)

be hauled. Layman Peck and Grusch worked feverishly to get water from the well, but finally came to the conclusion there was just not enough water in the well. It will be wonderful when the Kansas City, city water system is extended to Camp WYANDOTTE.

The boat ride on Wyandotte Lake was a real thrill. The boat had to make two trips to carry all campers and staff. Second trip out we encountered a severe rain storm. It got so bad the patrol boat had to come out to see if we were O. K. This brought to our attention the Biblical illustration of the apostles on the tempestuous sea and the Master stilling the waves. All got back to land in safety with no ill effects except a wetting.

Many gave their heart to the Lord in this camp during the vesper service which was in charge of Rev. Claude Stogsdill.

The latter part of the week my mother and sister came into camp to take us with them on a trip to the Pacific coast. We stored our Dodge in Kansas City and went in Jean's Plymouth. The Lord gave us a wonderful trip. We disliked missing General Conference, but we felt this might be the only opportunity for such a trip. On our way back we picked up our car and arrived home Sunday evening, August 28, at about 9:30 P. M. just in time to start a new school year the next day.

We praise God for the opportunity we had of serving the Lord in this capacity again in our Brethren camps, and for the wonderful way He watched over us as we traveled the busy highways.

Our thanks to the brotherhood for helping to make such a trip possible through White Gift offerings to the National Sunday School Association.

As we write this, we have just learned that someone else will represent the National S. S. Board in the camps next year. We sincerely hope that the few years Wadena and I have spent in the summer camps have been profitable to all concerned.

Yours in His Service,
Walter and Wadena Wertz, Conemaugh, Penna.

Wedding Announcement

CLINE-BENNINGTON. Miss Nancy Jean Cline became the bride of Donald Lee Bennington in a beautiful wedding December 25th, 3:30 P. M. in the Sanctuary of the Mill Creek Church of the Brethren. The service was followed by a reception in the Social Hall. A large company of friends and well-wishers were present. The service was read by the groom's pastor, the undersigned.
John F. Locke, Pastor Mr. Olive Brethren Church.

Laid to Rest

MAJOOR. Mrs. Gertrude Majoor, member of the Ardmore Brethren Church, passed away, Oct. 31, 1955 at home after a nine month's illness. Born, Chicago, June 28, 1897. Married to Louis H. Majoor, Mar. 4, 1913. Survived by husband, two daughters, seven grandchildren. Funeral from Church by her pastor, Arthur J. Tinkel. Interment, Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens.
Mrs. Marshall Harman, Cor. Sec'y.

* * *

SHOWALTER. Wendell Holmes Showalter who died Dec. 11, 1955 at the age of 39 years and 9 months as a result of a fall from a building in Harrisonburg, Virginia, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Brewer Showalter. Services held in the Mt. Olive Church by the undersigned, assisted by Rev. W. F. Garber of the Mill Creek Church of the Brethren. Interment was made in the family lot in the Mt. Olive Cemetery.
John F. Locke.

* * *

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT AND SYMPATHY

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Brethren Church of Goshen, Indiana, adopted the following resolutions on the death of one of our members, Mrs. Katie Culp, on November 22, 1955.

Whereas, it pleased an all-wise and merciful God to call our sister, co-laborer, and friend from earthly labor to reward, therefore be it resolved:

First: That we bow in humble submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well.

Second: That having died in faith believing, we will not mourn as those without hope, but will anticipate meeting her some day in that happy home in Heaven.

Third: That we tender her bereaved daughter, Mrs. Lee Miller, our heartfelt sympathy, and pray that God's sustaining grace may be her comfort in this sad bereavement.

Fourth: That these resolutions be placed on the minutes of our Society, and a copy sent to the family, and one to our church paper.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

WHAT IT TAKES

ANYONE who has attempted to lead young people in the local church knows that you have to give of yourself and yours to keep the youth program going. One knows too that in order to give he must have something to give; one might ask, "What does it take to be a youth worker?" Just as any preacher must have something both in his heart and his mind to deliver a sermon to his congregation, so the youth worker must have something in his mind and heart to give to his young people. In the long run, he is attempting to do the same thing with the young people—in a modified way—as the preacher is trying to do with his congregation. He wants them to grow into mature spiritual individuals. Obviously, if he does not accomplish this end he has not accomplished the thing for which the Church exists. This should be the purpose—and it should be stated somewhere in writing, probably the constitution—of every Christian organization. All other goals are simply means to this end.

Again, we are thinking about **qualifications** for youth leaders. It has been the custom for so long to take advantage of "willing workers" and "elect" them to do all of the work of the church, that we feel that this subject cannot be overdone. The custom is to select someone of the "right age" who has certain social qualifications and who will not offend the young people. Of course some of these characteristics are important, but the truth is that few who live a normal life are actually undesirable for the position if their spiritual qualities are good or above average. Many times the social type is actually too hilarious to make a good spiritual leader.

HE MUST BE GROWN UP

The youth worker must be emotionally secure so that he gives the sense of security to those who are his responsibility. Young people are as changeable as the weather and actually enjoy their changes in moods from time to time, but they want and need someone near who, while he is a close friend, does not vacillate and show signs of insecurity and moodiness in himself. He must show the type of dependability which he is attempting to train in them. I can imagine that the Air Force Cadet, no matter how frivolous he may seem, desires a settled, stable trainer who will cause some of his confidence and stability to "rub off" on himself during training. Flying the plane will someday be his job—in solo !..

This emotional stability must be actual, not just superficial, for even after the parties, the near failures in the meetings, the confidence must remain. The goals must be kept in mind, and a determination to pursue an elastic program which will eventually result in reaching these goals. Sudden interruptions and explosions of all types must not interfere with the steady, sure pace of the youth program. The one who directs such a program must not be, cannot be a mere child!

CONFIDENCE AND HOPE

Whose task is this—the leader's or Christ's? By keeping in mind that the challenge is of God, and that the blessings come from Him, the leader must proceed with confidence and good cheer. Blow-ups and temper tantrums and lost confidence belong to the realm of the hireling who is in charge for some reason other than the call of God. If the program fails most certainly it tells something about the program, the leaders and the youth. Try another approach. Try, try, try under the help and influence of the Holy Spirit. There is not just one way to do a thing. Get someone—perhaps one or two of the youth—to assist you and give you suggestions.

A spirit of confidence itself will help put across many ideas which otherwise would fail.

LEAD THE YOUNG PEOPLE

There is much good in everyone, especially a young person who has not yet fallen into the depths and degradation of the world. Christ not only came to save **for**, but also to save **from**. He not only came to save, but to show how. His life of more than thirty years would not have been so necessary—He could have died as an infant to pay the penalty of sin—if God did not mean for us to follow His example of living, as well as believe in His death. And so We are not only to tell them, but to show them. My observation is that young people today are not so much rebelling against the previous generation as they are mimicking them.

Give them an opportunity to give their opinions and express their doubts without consigning them to the lower regions. It probably is their way of "letting off steam," and the very act may lessen the pressure and reduce the doubts. Along with the big hearts and mouths (of advice) today we need more "big ears" that will listen understandingly to problems. As I look back over the years I note that those people who still irritate my thinking are those who wanted to "advise" me, instruct me, continually instead of understanding me. Those whom I love and remember are those who heard me out, even when I was wrong (which was most of the time!)

BUILDING AND BUILDING

BUILDING WITH BRICKS and building with young people—both are important. We build with bricks to house the buildings not made with hands—God's children. WHICH IS THE MOST TANGIBLE? Lay your hand on a brick—then lay it on the shoulder of a young man—which will bring the most lasting impression upon the community, the church the world? **Youth are the most tangible, the most pliable substance in the world with which to build! We cannot build churches without them!** To reach our young people today with the Gospel of Christ is to guarantee tomorrow to fill those churches with capable leaders—and, need we say, followers.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

AT BANFF in the Canadian Rockies are gardens which fulfill the dreams of all who love flowers and try to grow them to the peak of perfection. Great tall delphinium, pansies four to five inches across—unbelievable beauty! Ideal growing conditions—in this case, cool bright days and plenty of moisture—cause plants to respond in an amazing manner.

The wise gardener knows that he can't grow shade-loving plants in bright sunlight, and nothing is sorrier than plants struggling to survive under growing conditions wholly unsuitable. Even less can we ignore providing the climate needed for spiritual growth and flowering. Deeds of mercy which fall like "the gentle dew from heaven," prayer which keeps us in vital contact with God, meeting and working with Christian people, forgiving as the Heavenly Father forgives us, worship, reading and meditating upon the Word and upon what great souls have written, unselfish giving of ourselves and what we have, loving as Christ taught us to love one another—these are the growing conditions which produce beautiful lives. In climate like this grow lives that are like plants which push to the top of the wall and tumble over, bringing fruit and beauty to the neighbors.

But we can not have luxuriant growth without meeting the conditions for it. God through Christ has shown the plan for a rich life which can thrive when outward conditions seem impossible. The climate for spiritual growth is provided from within. Let us stop being puny Christians and give ourselves a chance to bloom—the fruit will follow.

Mildred Furry,
Mansfield, Ohio.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

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INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO. GRETNA, OHIO. Many of our churches have prepared and sent donations of food and clothing to our mission points in Kentucky over the Christmas season. Gretna has supplied us with a list of the things done by their group: The W. M. S. sent money and 92 lbs clothing to Lost Creek, and 37 lbs. to Krypton. The B. Y. C. sent a 20 lb. box of gifts to Lost Creek, The Brethren Builder's Class sent 30 lbs. of candy to Lost Creek and a like amount to Krypton.

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. Missionaries Dennis and Claire Snell presented their colored film, "Airmail From God" in the West Alexandria Church the evening of January 4th.

The Christian Western Film, "Mr. Texas," was shown in the West Alexandria church the evenings of January 14th and 15th.

FLORA, INDIANA. Brother and Sister C. A. Stewart are spending several weeks following January 11th at the Brethren's Home, during the absence of the Superintendent and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kuns.

Brother Stewart was the speaker on Thursday evening, January 5th at the Flora Week of Prayer services, which service was held in the Methodist Church.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Olsen, Missionary Candidates from Grace Methodist Church, were guests of the Elkhart Brethren the evening of January 8th, at which time they presented slides, and told of the work of the African Inland Mission.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. The Elkhart Salvation Army Commander was guest speaker at the Nappanee Laymen's Dinner meeting held the evening of January 9th.

DENVER, INDIANA. The following will be of interest to the many friends of Brother and Sister G. L. Maus, who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Brother Maus writes to the Editor:

"We received so many congratulation cards, letters, phone calls and gifts from all over the Brotherhood, that I will hardly find time to answer all of them.

"There were three hundred people in our home that day and many more would have been here, if the roads had not been icy.

"We did appreciate everything and would like to take this way to say, 'THANK YOU.'"

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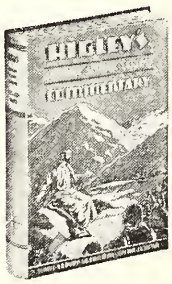

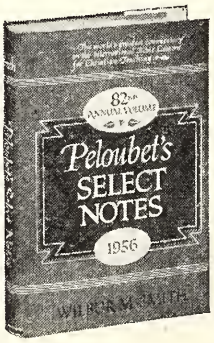

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The Voice Needed Most

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Items of General Interest

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz was given a call for another year as Pastor, at a recent business meeting.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The average Sunday School attendance for 1955 was announced as 141.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. The Parsonage Fund continues to increase with a recent Cash Day offering of $200.00.

The Sisterhood is scheduled to conduct the evening service on February 19th, at which time the sound film, "The African Prince," is to be shown.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. Guest speakers and special programs continue to fill the pulpit of the Third Brethren. Recent speakers were: Rev. W. M. Peffer and Rev. Carl Fisher, of Johnstown; the sound film, "The Flickering Flame" was shown the evening of January 8th.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. The W. M. S. and Laymen conducted the evening service on January 8th. The Stewardship Film, "Stranger in the House" was shown.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Two new members were received into the Church on January 15th.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. An attendance of 14 is noted for the first meeting of the newly organized Young Adults Sunday School class.

BRYAN, OHIO. Brother Alvin H. Grumbling has received a call to continue as Pastor for another year.

AKRON, INDIANA. Elijah Odokora, a college student and native of Africa, presented the message at the morning service, January 22nd.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. From the Goshen bulletin we learn that Brother W. I. Duker is feeling much better and is able to be out of bed for a short time. Let us continue to remember him in prayer.

HOWE, INDIANA. BRIGHTON BRETHREN. Dennis and Claire Snell are scheduled to conduct services in the Brighton church on January 29th.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Rev. O. B. Hall, Indiana Temperance League representative, was speaker the evening of January 15th in the Muncie church.

(Continued on Page 14)

COMING EVENTS

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Evangelistic Campaign—January 30th through February 12th.—Rev. Henry Bates, Pastor-Evangelist.

MEXICO, INDIANA. Revival Services—February 6-19—Rev. Percy C. Miller, Evangelist; Rev. Wayne Swihart, Pastor.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

Monday, January 30th, 10:00 A. M.
Meyersdale, Pennsylvania

Program includes Membership Records, Roll Revision, and Church Finance. To present the latter, Dr. Shultz, Vice President of Wells Organization, a Christian fund raising organization, will be coming from Chicago.

Ministers are urged to bring a member of their Finance Committee, or some other leading layman from their churches with them to this meeting. Dr. Shultz will speak at 1:00 P. M.

A pot-luck dinner will be held at noon.

Horace Huse, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Southern Indiana District Laymen will hold their regular Quarterly meeting at the Burlington, Indiana, Brethren Church on Monday Evening, February 20th, 1956. We especially urge a good attendance, as there will be a special program, the guest speaker being Dennis Snell, Missionary of the "Air Mail from God Mission" in Mexico. Special music by the men's quartet of Burlington.

Supper hour 6:00 to 7:00 central standard time. Please send reservations to the Burlington church.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

The Editor's Pulpit

The Wilderness Voice

JOHN, THE BAPTIST, the forerunner of Jesus Christ, was as a "voice of one crying in the wilderness." Matt. 3:1-10. His was the voice, the message of the Lord God. His message was beamed at that generation of people, literally in the wilderness of sin.

People of that day were listening to "voices." Yes, voices of politicians, religious leaders, economists. They listened to talk of war and peace, for it was everywhere. A kind of fear was also on every hand. Discontent, because of oppression and high taxes was prevalent. The voices of the planners and the "cure-alls" filled the land.

What matter then that one more voice appeared? But wait, this "voice" was crying in a different tone. What was his message? "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." This was a new angle. Had not the general theme of the day been selfishness, conceit, smugness, "strength within our own hands" policy? This new voice was advocating a return to God for peace —through confession of sin and a turning from ways of unrighteousness. Small wonder then that John was considered "odd."

Nearly 2000 years later, every conceivable voice is heard as a dinning babel. Our leaders and our planners give visions of greater things to come as a result of man's ingenuity, creativeness and productivity. We are "assured," so they say, that there can be "no end." At the same time, other voices are adding their decibels to the din by announcing the failure of peace talks—others are indicating the constant increase of moral and civil breakdown.

What, then, is the answer? Almost, even in the religious world, the voice of the Word of God, is as a voice crying in the wilderness.

(Anyone who is tempted to accept all religious thought as "gospel truth" should take note that in the days of John, The Baptist, his message from God was not in harmony with the strong organized religion of the day. Even to those who were high in the Jewish religious life, the Pharisees and Sadducees (Matt. 3:7), were told by John to "bring forth fruits meet for repentance." Matt. 3:8. We cannot accept as truth today every religious opinion simply because it has a clerical blessing upon it!)

Amidst the blaring tumult of the day let us hear the voice of the Word of God as a "sure cure" for the ills of our land, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chron. 7:14. In this day of many voices, let us give heed to the message of the Word of the Lord. It won't be the message of the world—but it will be that which will bring the peace that passeth understanding. It will bring a challenge to be as a tree planted by the waters—not moved by storms or stress. It will fire us to Christian service and witnessing.

When the noise and the tumult dies, which voice do you think will be speaking forth? Yes, it will be the voice of the Lord eternal—often ignored today and shoved aside, but in that day, to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

If the "many voices" today leave you with unrest, doubt and a feeling of insecurity, then open the word of the Lord, and from its pages, secure for yourself the answers for life's problems. Permit its message to speak to your heart, pouring over you the eternal blessings of a faith that sees beyond the babel of time, and which, in this day, can chart for you a safe course with Christ as the Master of your fate, and the Pilot of your Soul.—W. S. B.

New Testament Doctrines

Believed and Practised by People Called Brethren.

By L. O. McCartneysmith

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

SIGNS of the END of the WORLD

or,

The END of HUMAN GOVERNMENT

"So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the Kingdom of God is nigh at hand" (Luke 21:31.

IN A PREVIOUS DISCUSSION of the Doctrine of The Second Coming of Jesus Christ, His conversation with His disciples relating to the destruction of the Jewish Temple, His second coming, and the end of the world, was mentioned. In this conversation His disciples asked Him three questions: (1) When shall these things (The destruction of the Jewish Temple), be? (2) What shall be the sign of Thy Coming? (3) What shall be the sign of the end of the world? (In the original Greek in which the New Testament was written it is "The end of the age").

We are now living in a world governed by human beings; known to the Jews as "Gentile Government." This "Gentile World government," known in the Scripture as "The Times of The Gentiles," began as far as the Jews are concerned, with the Captivity of Judah and Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar in the year 610 B. C. (See 2 Chronicles 36:1-21). Since that time Jerusalem has been under Gentile Government. Relative to this it is recorded in Luke 21:24 by the word of Jesus Christ: "And Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." At the birth, and during the time Jesus Christ was on earth, Jerusalem was ruled by Roman Gentile Government. Under this "Gentile Government," one ruler after another has undertaken to establish a great "World Empire," beginning with the dynasty of Babel, (or confusion), which God has destroyed.

The most outstanding of these are: (1) The Babylonian World Empire, which God weighed in the balances and found wanting. (2) The dynasty of the Medes and Persians. (3) The Grecian World Empire, under direction of Alexander the Great. This empire dissolved beneath the heel of Roman dictators. (4) The Roman World Empire, ruled by the Caesars. In fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy (Dan. 2:34-35) this world empire was crushed by the "Stone" that was cut out without hands, and "became like the dust of the summer threshing floors, and no place was found for it."

The "dust" or remnants of the old Roman Empire, are now scattered over the world; and from time to time attempts have been made to set up from these "remnants" a new Super-world Government. Examples have been seen in Hitler's attempt. In Mussolini's. In the Soviet dictatorship. One by one these ungodly empires have risen and fallen, because they were not of God. And last, but not least, we now have the remnants of this "dust" assembling under the name of "The United Nations," undertaking to "police" the world in its actions. It is interesting to note that in its organization, God was completely left out; according to newspaper reports: because there was no indication of a word of Scripture being read; not a single verse of praise sung; not a single prayer offered for its success. It was said that the Moderator asked for a pause for "a moment of meditation," whatever he meant by that was left unexplained! Neither has there gone on record anything about the name of God being brought into use in the opening of any of its meetings, as far as the writer has observed!

Relative to these things God has spoken. Six hundred and three years before the birth of Jesus Christ, God spoke through His Prophet, Daniel, in these words: **"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a Kingdom which shall never be destroyed: and the Kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever"** (Daniel 2:44). This is the Kingdom of which the Angel Gabriel spoke to Mary, the Mother of Jesus Christ in the Annunciation: "And the Lord God shall give unto Him the Throne of His Father David and He shall reign over the House of Jacob for ever; and of His Kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:32-33) Again, we read in Revelation 20:6: "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."

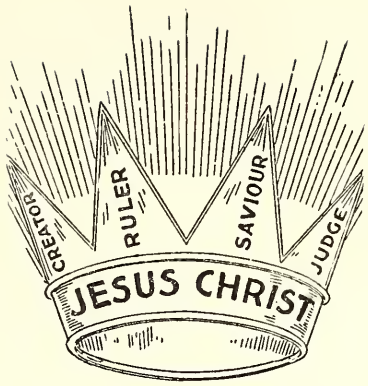
Christian men and women are now being prepared for his Kingdom; because His people must be a "prepared" people. He tells us that they must be "ready," and that requires preparation. In speaking of the signs of the end of the age, or end of the world, Jesus speaks in this manner: "So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the Kingdom of God is at hand" (Luke 21:31).

BUT WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF THE END OF THE WORLD? Just what may we look for that we may know the end is nigh? What are the signs of the end of Gentile Human Government? We may discern it in both the Old and the New Testament prophecies under the heading of "In the Last Days" relating to the end of the age, or of human government. These same prophecies are being daily fulfilled visibly in the Political, Social, and Religious phases of human life. These signs, like milestones along life's highway, unerringly point toward the ending of human government, and the establishment of "The Kingdom that shall have no end." Political fulfillment is recorded in the world's histories relating to the rising and falling of various political kingdoms.

During the first half of this century great changes have been made in world government; so that the maps of almost the entire world have been radically changed. Empires have been hastily set up, and just as quickly fallen; leaving some nations practically destitute. These wars have greatly shaken and shattered many kingdoms; and we are now listening to the "rumors" of wars spoken of by Jesus Christ to His disciples in these words: "**And ye shall hear of wars and rumors wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.** For nation shall rise against nation, and kindom against kingdom . . . all these are the beginning of sorrows" (Matthew 24:6-7).

At this present moment, it seems that the entire world of human government is frantically preparing for war. Just why, no one seems to understand: but vast armies, millions of young men, are being "readied" all over the world. Billions of dollars are being set apart for "Defense." Just who may fire the first gun, or drop the first bomb, no one knows! Yet almost everyone feels that it is imminent! Yet there seems to be no visible reason for war!

Great social signs are to be seen; but perhaps the most outstanding fulfillment in prophecy in the phase of society is **the great increase of knowledge.** Five hundred and thirty-four years before Christ was born, the Prophet Daniel, in the last chapter of his prophetic utterance, was commanded: "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, **and seal the book, even to the time of the end: Many** shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" (Daniel 12:4). It would seem that the world has been patiently waiting for the fulfillment of this prophecy! even while it passed through what our histories called "The Dark Ages." Greater progress has been made within the last 100 years in the fields of knowledge than in all of its history put together. Means of acquiring knowledge have been greatly multiplied over the ancient systems. With perhaps a few exceptions even in the time of Christ, the world's great teachers had no organized systems of education, but wandered from place to place and taught



men wherever a sufficient number could be called together. But now we have grade schools, high schools, colleges and universities throughout the civilized world. Excellent public libraries are also to be found in most countries, in practically every large town or city. Daily newspapers, magazines, books, and periodicals fill the news stands.

In the field of communication of knowledge we have had within the past 75 years the most outstanding discoveries of the age. The telephone, telegraph, radio, television, telephoto, and postal systems of the world have been developed; and we cannot imagine what may be presented at any time! In the field of transportation, we have a great exhibition of knowledge; the use of steam, electricity, gas and gasoline and oil has transformed transportation. Within the past century we have developed the steamship, locomotive, steam engine, gas engines, electric motors and lighting; not to say anything about the atom which is now being applied to transportation. Steamships carrying as many as 2,000 passengers ply the oceans; Airlines crisscross our continent; and paved roads filled with thousands of cars roll across what were vast prairies just a few years ago. Agriculture has completely changed. With modern machinery one man may now farm more acres than five or six men could farm with horses and mules fifty years ago.

In the field of medical science tremendous strides have been accomplished. Only 300 years have passed since the circulation of man's blood was discovered, and it has not been more than 100 years since the physician's chief remedy was to bleed the patient for practically all diseases. (Some say that this is now applicable to only the patient's pocketbook!) Barely 138 years have passed since, against the protests of hundreds of people, and behind securely locked doors, without any kind of anesthetic, old Dr. Ephriam McDowell, performed the first abdominal surgery on a woman as she lay strapped to her own kitchen table and sang religious hymns to alleviate the pain she had to endure! But see what we have today! Xrays, Fluroscope, and microscope, enabling us to see the present invisible things of the body, and accomplish the seemingly impossible through surgery, while we quietly sleep with the aid of modern anesthesia, while the surgeon deftly and swiftly operates, removing or repairing

various organs of the body, grafting new skin, and replacing even damaged eyes!

THE GREAT PERILS OF OUR SOCIAL SYSTEM is the second sign of the end of human government. In 2 Timothy 3:1-7, the Apostle Paul enumerates more than twenty stages of social irreligion to which men have arrived, of which he informs us constitute times of great peril. It is very evident that we are now living within the bounds of the fulfillment of these prophecies.

"This know also, **that in the last days** perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves (Selfishness) covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of Godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:1-7). In all the world's history, I do not believe that you will find anything recorded to hold up in comparison with the men and women of this age. Never before have people been more selfish, treacherous, blasphemers, despisers of good, or lovers of pleasure than found in this generation!

IN THE REALM OF RELIGION we discover many signs of the end of this world government. Departure from The Faith is the first sign in Christendom. In I Timothy 4:1, the Apostle Paul states this great fact concerning what will transpire during the last days, or "latter times": **"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the Faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils."** In a recent issue of a prominent magazine a report was given of twenty-one dignitaries of the Church of England consisting of 242 pages in which this committee is quoted as agreeing that: "Mythological accounts of the Creation in Genesis 1 and 2, should cause no objection to evolutionary theory, that the idea of common ancestry for man and apes was acceptable and that it impaired no basic spiritual concepts. It stated also that it was legitimate to accept or reject the reality of miracles, the Resurrection, and the Virgin Birth, and . . . you can think what you like, and still be a Christian."

Quoting from a tract sent out by The Wealthy Street Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, by Dr. David Otis Fuller, who quotes the following from a book written by a Professor of Philosophical Theology in a prominent university, regarding the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ: "Strange, however, is the hold which this doctrine (the Virgin Birth) in its more literal form has on countless people. Reference to the Virgin Birth is not found in Paul's letters, the earliest writings we have. It is not found in Mark, the original Gospel. It is not found in the Johanine tradition. As a matter of fact, the reference in John to the claim by the Jews to the effect that they were not born in adultery, could give external evidence to a Nazi claim that Jesus was German. Mary, we remember, was found pregnant before her engagement to mild Joseph. Nazareth was hard by a Roman garrison where soldiers were German mercenaries. Jesus is also reported throughout a continuous part of the history of art, it is claimed, to have been a blonde. This is supposedly unnatural for the Mediterranean countries where this same tradition started and was continued. Hence Jesus must have been the child of a German soldier! . . . Such an interpretation has been made of his life, and who can deny that such a conjecture could not be true?" What outrageous blasphemy against the Only Begotten Son of God! Yet it is said that this prominent professor is in great demand as a speaker among various denominations! There could be no doubt that such a man has departed from the Faith and is giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils!

AN OUTSTANDING SIGN OF THE END OF HUMAN GOVERNMENT is the return of Jewry to Palestine. According to God's Holy Word, the return of Israel to his own land is one of the most outstanding signs of the end of Gentile World Government. As Israel now exists the Twelve Tribes are scattered over the world, and very few Jews now know to what tribe they belong. But God knows, and also knows where they are; although there are 11,570,800 in the world. Regarding this God spoke by the Prophet Ezekiel 587 years before Christ was born: "My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill; yea, my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth . . . and as I live, saith the Lord God, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, neither did my shepherd search for my flock; but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock" (Ezekiel 34:5-8).

The Jews indeed became a prey, and meat to every beast of the field in Russia, and Germany especially in Germany within recent years. This great persecution began when Hitler was made Chancellor of Germany, Jan 30th, 1934. Following this, on March 28th, 1934 the Nazis began a systematic boycott of all Jewish institutions, ordering all Jewish places of business clearly labeled as such. Because of this 80,000 Jews left Germany, settling mostly in Palestine. Then, on October 10th, 1935 Hitler's wrath again fell upon Jews, herding them into camps and three days later fining them $400,000,000.00! Here, in these same camps on April 19th, 1943 the Nazis held a mass execution of two million Jews with gas!

As a result of these persecutions, the British Government issued its "White Paper" declaring the establishment of a Jewish State Palestine, promising that after transitory period of 10 years the establishment of a "independent" Palestine in which the Arabs, and Jew

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How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurer also please note:

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

Make checks payable to The Brethren Publishing Company, and address The Brethren Publishing Company, 5 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

SARASOTA HIGHLIGHTS

(Taken from Reverend Vanator's letter to Berkshire)

. . . I don't know just where I left off in reporting our progress, but I feel that we are now advancing at a rather fine rate. With the prospect of more and more Brethren locating permanently in Sarasota, and the contacting of more Church of the Brethren people already in our territory, the prospects indeed look brighter and brighter. This only goes to show us that it is becoming more essential for a rapid advance of our building program.

We are trusting that we will have the "green light" in this program before too long. We have room for only a limited expansion in the Hall, particularly in the most important park of the work, namely, the children's division.

The need here is for Sunday school rooms, since we have only one room for the children. Our children and young people are now of such varied ages—6 to 14 years—that the problem of teaching them in one class becomes increasingly difficult . . .

The Beekleys have been a great help to us since moving to Sarasota. We are sorry to see Eugene leave (as he must on Friday) for his duties in Korea. But we are glad that Peggy and the boys are remaining with us for the year at least. She will take over the making of our bulletins, as she and Gene have been doing already. She is a very great help. The mimeograph will prove of infinite value to us in the days to come. We feel that we obtained a real bargain in the machine, which Gene secured for us here.

The last two Sundays our attendance was 66 and 65. Here is the attendance record of our first nine Sundays in 1954 compared with the same period in 1955:

1954		1955	
November 7	11	November 6	31
November 14	17	November 13	34
November 21	22	November 20	39
November 28	21	November 27	42
December 5	20	December 4	59
December 12	19	December 11	48
December 19	21	December 18	48
December 26	30	December 25	66
1955		**1956**	
January 2	26	January 1	65
Total	187	Total	432
Average	21	Average	48

As people from the North visit us (and we have some each week in our services) they seem to have one question in their minds that we feel is vital to them: "When are you going to start building?" Of course, the only way we can answer is to say, "Whenever the Missionary Board has the money."*

They usually say, "Better get started. You're going to need more room very soon," whereupon they generally "up" their contribution to our morning offering. We tell them to go back home and raise some money and send it to the Mission Board for our church. This doesn't seem to dampen their ardor either. We hope every one goes back North with a message that will bring in the needed money.

It looks very much as though we are going to need more chairs. The Hall has 48 and we have 52. That makes a seating capacity of ONLY 100. Notice, please, the word "only." We had 33 present at our communion—a very wonderful service . . .

Thanks again for all you and the Board have done for the Sarasota work.

Yours in His service,

Fred

* On the subject of when the Missionary Board has the money to build a church at Sarasota, the office reveals this information: On this date (January 11, 1956) the amount of $4,990 has been received (from $10 Club and other gifts) for the Sarasota Church.

We are appreciative of these gifts, but as you can see, much more will be needed before a church building can be started. (Missionary Board Office)

DOC SHANK WRITES FROM MARAMA

December 17, 1955

Usa giri-wa giri:

Clayton, we certainly were glad you found time to answer our letters. In fact, I gave some instruction to Bob and Bea who visited with us a short while enroute to Jos. They looked good, but seemed anxious to get home. They are good missionaries, and it was very profitable to us having them visit with us.

We have greeted the various people whom you mentioned in your letter. Some of the Africans expressed a desire to write to you; they all asked me to salute you. By the way, Nvwa has an article in the **Gospel Messenger** which I'm sure you have read. He is a real inspiration, both to the Africans and to the missionaries. I only wish more of the Brethren could learn to know him.

Jean, Pindar (our cook) and Andui (our house boy) are singing Christmas carols in our living room. Occasionally Dennis joins in with his bass voice. Our cook is doing very well thus far. He makes a few mistakes every now

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CO-ORDINATING PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH

Chairman	**Moderator L. V. King**
Publishing Company	**J. E. Stookey**
Ministerial Association	**Willis E. Ronk**
Missionary Board	**Clayton Berkshire**
National S. S.	**Spencer Gentle**
W. M. S.	**Mrs. Clarence Fairbanks**
Laymen	**H. D. Hunter**
Benevolent Board	**E. M. Riddle**
Brethren Youth Board	
S. M. M.	
Brotherhood	

THE 1955 GENERAL CONFERENCE authorized the formation of a Co-Ordinated Planning Committee for the Brethren Church. Herewith, we are presenting the names of the representatives from the various auxiliaries and boards of the Church as effected at the close of the Conference. Other groups have yet to present their representatives.

The general purpose of the Committee is to study the over-all program of the church, and to suggest ways whereby the entire program of the church might be made more effective and fruitful through a better understanding and united action.

Because of the great interest manifested, and the genuine desire expressed by many for such a Committee, which resulted in its formation last August, the Editor has written to the Presidents of our various boards and auxiliaries, asking of them a few words of comment relative to their hopes and plans for this Committee. Articles from those who have responded, appear herewith.

The Brotherhood is anticipating, and is eagerly awaiting the next General Conference of the Brethren Church to learn the findings and suggestions of this Committee. —W. S. B.

J. E. STOOKEY,

President Publication Board

WHEN THE GENERAL CONFERENCE created a Co-ordinating Planning Committee, we took an advance which has not been equaled in recent years for the Brethren church. A Step which will mean progress in a broader understanding for the Brethren Church.

It will be necessary for the churches to accept the program and immediately go forward with plans to lay a foundation of strength and unification.

The Lord has spoken, we should move in and possess the land.

Our lack of Co-ordination in numerous ways over the last several years, particularly in Co-ordinating our boards, which is very essential, has caused us much grief and a great deal of disappointment.

A very important item in the program is **stewardship,** not as a duty, but as a means of grace, through which we receive joy and rich blessing. The matter of giving, and the right amount, is just as essential to the program, and should be incorporated.

Prayer is very essential, which is in reality the backbone of the whole program. Without the medium of prayer we would be working in vain.

God moves in mysterious ways, and was surely moving in the midst of our General Conference, as was indicated by reports and recommendations of the several Committees, who were all working and thinking along the same trend.

Co-Ordinating seems to be the watchword of the hour.

This is the golden opportunity for the Brethren Church to grasp and to move forward in unison.

Some of our Church boards have Co-ordinated their work and you will find they are very successful.

In the Publishing Co. we must Co-ordinate our plans and program to get the best results. The same principle applies to the Church and Brotherhood at large.

Accept my hearty endorsement of the Co-ordinating Planning Committee and its program.

Ft. Pierce, Florida.

REV. C. Y. GILMER,

President Brotherhood Board

THE "UNITED APPEAL" seems to be the successful appeal for our day. "Everybody benefits the united way." This idea can obtain for The Brethren Church a united point of view. A disadvantage of being loosely knitted together in our objectives is that we are as "untied Brethren." We need to see together the same thing, the whole, and not just parts. A combined program will focus and therefore unite our efforts. An over-all program denominationally will establish a budget system in our local congregations. The present day home operates on the budget basis. So does every concern that knows where it is going. The proposed co-ordinating plan is to unite our efforts. United effort will mean an INCREASED effort. The larger denominations have followed this plan for years.

The question arises in the Boys' Brotherhood sessions at General Conference each year, "What shall be the missionary project for the coming year?" The boys usually seek the counsel of the secretary of the Missionary Board. But there is a detached feeling in that we may be too much on our own. The warning on a passenger's ticket is, "Not good if detached." In other words, we need a united program in which the boys may have a part. The united way will create a better church consciousness.

Manteca, Calif.

MRS. RUSSELL RODKEY,

President Woman's Missionary Society

NATIONAL CONFERENCE is history, but I feel that we can still make history if we would but heed the suggestions and recommendations of our past Moderator, Rev. Brant. All through his moderator's address he said "every year, recommendations are made and then forgotten." However, during the 1955 General Conference, the Brethren Church effected a Co-ordinating Planning Committe. Surely this will not be forgotten.

I speak for the National W. M. S. when I say we were delighted with the new committee and immediately appointed Mrs. Clarence Fairbanks as our representative. We definitely feel that the Brethren Church can profit by such a committee and also feel that the committee can be of value to our W. M. S. Program.

We believe that in our W. M. S. organization we have the strongest and best auxiliary of our Church and so we have thought over our methods to see how the whole denomination could use the same ideas to get it in a moving spirit. You will find the plan we use very similar to the new Committee mentioned.

First, let us think of our college and the different departments; music, art, homemaking, commercial, etc., and the confusion they would have if each planned its own activities, conducted its programs and extensions without the unifying head of the president to see that they work together and do not interfere with each other. Yet, our denominational interests are carried on with each group pushing its particular part without much interest or concern with what any other group is trying to do. The Mission board wants to establish new churches, send out more missionaries etc.; the Publishing House wants to install more machines and print larger

quarterlies; the Benevolent Board tries to improve the Home and grant larger pensions; the College tries to build more buildings and provide a better education—but the W. M. S. seems to be the only organization that cares what each of the others is trying to do. Through our representatives on these various Boards and through our husbands serving on various Boards and committees we have a good over-all picture of all of the Boards and we are able to plan our program so we make a contribution of money and interest to the current project of each Board. That is as it should be. So as the W. M. S. has information concerning most of the Boards and Auxiliaries, and pushes forward with great strides, this same plan would give new vigor and life to the Brethren Church. This is what the new Co-ordinating Planning Committee could really be.

We believe that such a Committee should have a part and be a real asset in helping to plan the General Conference Program. Our present General Conference Executive Committee has asked the assistance of the Mission Board, the National Sunday School Board and the College to help plan the 1956 Conference program. This is as it should be. It only shows that a more effective program can be worked out with each Board and Auxiliary presenting their suggestions and also their problems. I am a firm believer in having some outside speakers, and the Co-ordinating Planning Committee could be a channel through which speakers might be contacted and the Auxiliaries have an opportunity to use them on their program. I believe that we have many fine ministers in the Brethren Church who can really preach the Word, but I feel that ministers need inspiration, new visions and re-dedication to their work as well as the laity. This in part is what our National Conference should be.

In the last sentence of Rev. Brant's specific recommendation, he said, "This committee to be charged with the responsibility of studying and initiating a forward looking program." In this regard, the new Committee can be to the Brethren Church what the National W. M. S. Executive Board is to the Woman's Missionary Society. The spirit of the W. M. S. is controlled and influenced by the vision and Christian living of each member of the Executive Board. We spend much time in prayer, in planning and in studying of how best we can make our work more effective. There is need for the leaders of our denomination to get together to discuss the problems and policies of our church like we discuss the W. M. S. work.

I believe that the Co-ordinating Planning Committee has a definite place in the future of the Brethren Church. Yes, if all the Boards and Auxiliaries are to function harmoniously, and if we want to coordinate our National Work—surely again I say, there is need for this committee.

Eph. 2:21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord.

Kokomo, Indiana.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

(Continued from Page 7)

and then. Just tonight he forgot to put baking soda in a cake which he baked. A few days ago he made the same kind of cake for Dennis' birthday, and it was very good; so Jean decided to have him bake another one. I suppose it'll get eaten. (Brownies now—not cake)

District meeting was a memorable occasion, especially the communion service on the closing evening. To be sure this service took on new meaning for us. It was a joy to fellowship with our African Brethren in this sacred rite. They seemed to catch more of its reverence and simplicity.

Jean and I are looking forward to Annual Meeting. We are anxious to meet all of the missionaries and to become better acquainted with them and with mission policies.

From all indications we will be moving to Waka soon after Annual Meeting. It will be nice to get into a larger house where we will be able to unpack our belongings. We have unpacked only the very essentials and have sent the rest to Waka. Our house here is small—just two small rooms, plus a little kitchen in a separate building about 20 feet from the dining room. Clayton, I think maybe you stayed in the house where the Swanks are now living. We are between Miss Utz's and Goods'.

With the exception of some minor attacks of malaria, we have managed to stay well. Thanks, Ida, for the information. Love, Doc.

Have you given to the PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING ? ?

Goal—Not less than $5,000.00

SIGNS OF THE END OF THE WORLD
Or
THE END OF HUMAN GOVERNMENT

(Continued from Page 6)

would share authority in government. During the next 5 years 75,000 Jews were permitted to enter Palestine. These arrangements failed to satisfy either Jews or Arabs and attempts to bring Jewish immigrants into Palestine illegally brought on more terrorism, and the entire matter was turned over to the United Nations for advice. Following this, in May 14th, 1948 as the British evacuated Palestine, Dr. Chaim Weizmann was elected Provisional President of Israel. On this same date this new Government was recognized by the United States, and the Free State of Israel was proclaimed, with Jerusalem as its Capitol. Since that time there has been a continuous flow of Jewish immigration into the new home of Israel.

This is the message God gave the Prophet Ezekiel concerning the return of Israel to his own land: "Thus saith the Lord God; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof, and all the abominations thereof from thence." They are to be converted, because the prophet continues: "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh, and they will walk in my statutes and keep my ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God" (Ezekiel 11:17-20).

THE LAST SIGN OF THE END OF THE WORLD is the universal preaching of the gospel of the Kingdom. "And this gospel of The Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14). We are not preaching the gospel of the Kingdom today. We are preaching the gospel of Salvation by Grace through Faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ. The Gospel of the Kingdom will not be preached by Gentiles, but by converted Jews. In speaking of the Kingdom blessings the Prophet Isaiah tells us: "And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javin, to the isles afar off that have not heard my fame, neither seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles. And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the Lord out of all the nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem" (Isaiah 66:19-20).

In the Revelation we read about the 144,000 taken out of the twelve tribes of Israel, which stood before the throne with an innumerable host of all kindreds and nations and tongues and cried out: "Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb" (Rev. 7:4-14). These were those who had "come out of great tribuation, and had their robes washed in the blood of the Lamb." Following this, we find the story of God's two Witnesses in Rev. 11:3-12, which prophesied 3½ years. Doubtless these prophecies concerned the Coming King, and conditions preceding his arrival to set upon the Throne of His father David at Jerusalem. The last preaching preceding the end of the world will not be done by man, but by God's angelic messenger, who shall preach "The Everlasting Gospel." In his comments on this preaching, Dr. C. I. Scofield has this to say, which is worthy of our consideration: "It is neither the gospel of the Kingdom, nor of Grace. Though its burden is judgment, not Salvation, it is good news to Israel and to those who, during the tribulation, have been saved" (Rev. 7:9-14; Psalm 96:11-13; Isaiah 35:4-14). This is the chief message of the angel: "Fear God, and give glory unto Him, for the hour of judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven and earth, and sea, and the fountains of waters" (Rev. 14:1-7). Perhaps there could be no more fitting conclusion to this than the words of Jesus as recorded in Luke 21: 28: "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

Cumberland, Maryland.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

KEEPING OR SHARING

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received." I Cor. 15:3.

I GUESS IT IS HUMAN to want to keep for ourselves the finest, the best, the most beautiful and most valuable things in life that come to us. The greatest and the finest things in life are given to us to share; and the greatest joys in life are in the sharing of those bestowals. The artist paints his dream upon a canvas, and finds joy in the consciousness that he has made a lasting contribution to the beauty and enrichment of the world. The physician makes a great discovery for the healing of man's physical ills and could be a millionaire almost over night if he could sell the formula. But the Hippocratic Oath forbids him keeping for his own pleasure or aggrandizement any secret of healing which he may discover or acquire. Such secrets are too good to keep to himself.

And God so loved the world that He could not keep it to Himself. In the face of the world's sinfulness and repulsiveness God saw something worth redeeming and so He sent His beloved Son to tell the world of His purpose to share that love with men. And Christ came and declared God's love for men, exemplified that love in His own sacrifice on the cross. The "Gospel" (the Good News) which Christ came to proclaim is the most wonderful blessing that was ever given to men—and it is given to us to share. Have we shared this "Gospel" with those who have never heard it, or who should hear it and may never hear it unless we "share" its blessings with our neighbors and loved ones?

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C Y Gilmer

PRAYER

Prayer is the incense of a holy heart,
  Rising to God from bruised and broken things,
When kindled by the Spirit's burning breath,
  And upward borne by faith's ascending wings.

Prayer is the ascending vapour which supplies
  The "showers of blessing," and the stream that flows
Through earth's dry places, till, on every side,
  "The wilderness shall blossom as the rose."

Prayer is the mightiest force of earth and Heaven;
  Prayer is the very dynamite of God;
It moves the Hand that all things moves, and turns
  The living wheels that sweep through earth abroad.

Teach us to pray! Move on our hearts, O Lord,
  Till God's own passion all our being move.
Teach us, pray in us, till our prayer shall be
  God in us answering to the God above.

—A. B. Simpson.

ALL BELONGS TO GOD, and we can have our needs supplied if we ask aright (Matt. 7:7-11). James explains our powerlessness and poverty (James 4:2). It is the neglect of prayer. The early church prayed and was ever bearing fruit (Acts 2:47). They prayed and they had power with God and men (Acts 4:4; 5:14). The apostles knew the secret of their resistless power (Acts 6:4). The laity had power in life and service (Acts 2:44-47; 4:32-37; 11:19, 21). They were steadfast in their praying (Acts 2:42). God delighted in their praying (Psalm 50:15). Their strength was renewed from day to day (Isaiah 40:31).

If we are sincere in prayer we shall come to see ourselves in our weakness, sinfulness, and selfishness (Rom. 7:18). A life of power has to be preceded by a revelation of no power and worth (Isaiah 6:5). Then we are in position for God to work through us (Isaiah 6:8, 9). Like Moses we need the lesson of the burning bush as to our utter unfitness for God's service (Exodus 3:2, 5, 11; 2:11-15). Job had to see his self-righteousness before he could overcome it and could intercede for his friends (Job 42:5, 6, 10, 12). We need to pray regularly for the searching of our hearts (Psalm 139:23).

Through sincere prayer our hearts may be cleansed from sins secret and known (Psalm 19:12, 13). Thus David was cleansed from horrible sins (Psalm 51:2). The Holy Spirit then worked in his life in answer to prayer (Luke 11:13; Psalm 51:12, 13) for the converting of sinners.

Prayer will hold us up and keep our feet from slipping (Psalm 17:5). When under pressure we need to pray against temptation (Luke 22:40). Gethsemane preceded a perfect Calvary (Heb. 5:7).

An ungovernable tongue needs prayer (James 3:8). God can tame it in answer to earnest prayer (Psalm 141:3). Prayer will bring the much needed wisdom (James 1:5). Even infinite wisdom may be had for the asking in faith (James 1:6, 7). We may have the joy of knowing God's way and walking therein (Psalm 86:11; 25:4; 143:10; 119:33).

Prayer will enlighten God's Word unto us (Psalm 119:18). Prayer will bring the Holy Spirit into our lives with His fullness and blessed ministry (Luke 11:13). This is according to the experience of the first disciples (Acts 1:14). The same experience was repeated shortly (Acts 2:4). It was soon repeated the third time (Acts 4:31). The Samaritan converts experienced the same blessing (Acts 8:15, 17). Paul expected the Ephesians to enjoy the same benefit (Eph. 1:17; 3:16). Through prayer our lives are transformed and conformed into the life of Christ (2 Cor. 3:18).

When facing obstacles the early disciples prayed (Acts 4:24), and the obstacles were removed (Acts 4:31-33; 5:14). To fail to pray is to fail (Luke 18:1; Isaiah 40:31).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for February 5, 1956

JESUS TEACHES GRATITUDE

Lesson: Luke 17:11-19

JESUS HAD TO TEACH the importance of gratitude to His followers. It needs to be taught today. The ungrateful soul does not realize he owes a debt of thanks to God Almighty for His mercy, and love, and grace. A debt that can never be fully paid. However, he should try, for as Milton has written: "A grateful mind by owing owes not, but still pays, at once indebted and discharged."

"And as He (Jesus) entered into a certain village, there met Him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off . . . " The Old Testament law is very implicit as to the disposition of lepers. "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Command the children of Israel, that they put out of the camp every leper, . . . both male and female shall ye put out . . . that they defile not their camps, in the midst whereof I dwell" (Num. 5:1-3). Thus the awful plight of these ten men.

"And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." There is one cry which never goes unheard by the Lord—the cry of the needy soul! Peter is testimony to this fact, for finding himself sinking in the water, he cried, "Lord, save me." Then we read: "And immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand, and caught him" (Matt. 14:30-31).

It was also the experience of the Canaanite woman who earnestly beseeched the Lord on behalf of her daughter: "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Thou Son of David."

esus said to her: "Be it unto thee even as thou wilt" (Matt. 15:22, 28).

The helpless beggar, blind Bartimaeus, cried out unto he Lord in these words: "Jesus, Thou Son of David, have nercy on me." Hearing his cry, Jesus said unto him: "Go hy way; thy faith hath made thee whole" (Mark 10: 47, 52).

"And it came to pass, that, as they (the ten lepers) vent, they were cleansed." You will note the lepers were ıealed "as they went"—in other words, they were healed ıs they set forth to **obey** the command of Christ to "Go show yourselves unto the priests."

The reason so many prayers go unanswered lies right ıere. **God does not answer because we do not obey!**

Ten new men! How happy they must have been! At east they were free from this awful physical affliction hat had plagued them so long! How thankful they were—or were they? Not all of them. There was but **one** who lemonstrated true thanksgiving and gratitude. "And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God."

"Thanksgiving is a basic mood,
Attitude.
In the over-all perspective
There is only one objective,
Gratitude."

This seems so hard for us to believe! Could it be possible that such ungrateful people really exist in the world? Yes indeed—and we need not look far to find them. If we but examine our own conduct, carefully and prayerfully, we will discover there have been times when we were as guilty of ingratitude as the nine lepers of our story.

Remember the time you prayed so earnestly for that sick loved one, and the Lord intervened and spared the life? Did you return to Him in order to thank Him? Or, during that dark hour of sorrow and heartache, after the passing of that loved one who meant so much to you, do you remember how the Lord became real to you, and poured into your aching heart the "Balm of Gilead?" Did you remember to say "thank you, Lord?"

We conclude this lesson with this quotation from Shakespeare, taken from the second part of Henvy VI:

"God's goodness hath been great to thee.
Let never day nor night unhallow'd pass,
But still remember what the Lord hath done."

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

TRUE WORSHIP

ONE OF THE TOPICS which we are thinking about this month is WORSHIP. We direct our thoughts to this noble subject because there are as many ideas and opinions about the real meaning of worship as there are individuals who are concerned about God and Eternity. To so many, the matter of worship is taken care of by "church going." To others, one can "worship" God just as sincerely at home as in church. Almost everyone has some conception of worship.

We might throw a little light on the subject of worship by looking carefully at the word. Worship is a late form of the old English word **worthship.** This will throw light on the subject for both of the above-mentioned types. Needless to say, no one can accomplish the art of true worship unless he is concerned about it, and definitely desires a right relationship with his Maker..

Assuming that the reader has arrived at the place where he no longer substitutes things and ideas to worship instead of the Lord, we shall proceed with the hope that we can contribute to his worship life. This should be especially noted by the young person, for he is now forming habits which will determine the course of his whole future life. It takes both information on how to worship and encouragement to achieve this good habit.

WORSHIP IS NATURAL

One thing we don't have to worry about here—it is natural to worship. Worship is the form of outlet which man needs to lighten his burdened soul. Even the so-called atheist (meaning, "without God") and the infidel seek that outlet: they simply turn the soul to self (inward devotion) instead of to God (outward focusing of the soul's desire). The words of Jesus to Satan, "It is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve," (Matt. 4:10), seem to indicate that man will not be without an object of worship even though it may not be God. The command is to turn one's devotion to God.

Is it any wonder that those who fail to give outward expression of worship in God's house seem to wither away in spirit? When we look at the true worshipper we see a freshness and vitality that can come only through giving expression to the soul's desire in overt worship. It isn't necessary to ask a spring why it gives vent to its unlimited supply of clear waters. And Jesus came to supply the believer with just such a spiritual spring. The Samaritan woman worshipped, but she "knew not what," (John 4:22a). Jesus promised her a spring which would flow with Godly worship, (John 4:7-15). So it is as natural for the true believer to worship as it is for the spring to bubble and flow.

A PICTURE OF TRUE WORSHIP

If the Christian wants to know something about worship he must ultimately go to his Bible. He isn't going to find the answer to God's will in the exercise of worship in every chapter of the Bible, in fact he will find it in only a few passages. So we direct the reader to the tabernacle as it is described in the Old Testament. The tabernacle was built with the **form** of worship which was to be followed in mind; this form in turn suggested the **spirit** of worship which God demands. (Turn to Exodus 25 and following for the structure of the tabernacle.) Since this form of worship is a type and shadow of the heavenly realm, the Christian does well to study it carefuly.

We remember that both Moses and Joshua were told on the approach of God's messenger to "get thy shoes

(Continued on Page 15)

What's Doing in the Churches

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA

We have closed the pages of 1955 feeling that we have been wonderfully blessed and that much of good has been accomplished. But we are sure there are many blessings ahead and much work to be done in the New Year that is before us.

Since writing to you last we have installed all new windays in our church. They have added much to the beauty and comfort of the building. We have also bought new song books for use in our regular services.

We are much concerned for the Youth of our community so once each month we have a Youth Fun Night at which time we have our devotions, refreshments and games. To add to the enjoyment of the evening we have purchased a shuffle board and ping pong. These are much enjoyed by all.

In September we entertained the Northern Laymens' Organization and in October, Rev. E. J. Black of Muncie, Indiana came to us for a two weeks' revival. While there were no new converts we feel that the church was really blessed spiritually and we re-dedicated ourselves to our service for the Lord.

On the third Sunday in each month Rev. and Mrs. Thomas and others from the church hold services for the people in the St. Joseph Co. Infirmary. These meetings are at 2:00 P. M. and are much appreciated and enjoyed by the residents there.

In looking ahead for the work of the New Year we are purchasing a mimeograph machine for use in the printing of our church programs and other items. We hope to be able to say with Paul, "But this one thing (we) do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before."

I (we) press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:13 and 14.

Mrs. Ernest Schrader, Cor. Sec'y.

PENNSYLVANIA TO INDIANA

A report from the writer is long overdue. The preparation, moving and getting settled again has taken our time. With all this has been the Christmas season, which always calls for extra duties.

Our Pastorate at The Third Brethren Church in Johnstown was a very happy one, and we believe it was a successful one. This is one of the best organized churches we know and, believe me, these auxiliaries are alive. They do not cease their activity during the Summer months. Financially this church made a very fine record during our pastorate. The support of missions and benevolences kept growing higher with every year. At the same time the local treasurers reported unusual balances in curren funds and also the building fund. Spiritually, a lik growth was noted. A good number were received into th Church, the exact figure I do not now have. No Pasto could ever wish for a more faithful choir. They were al ways at their post to support the services. Our fellow ship in the Church and with other churches of the Mor rellville section of the city was deeply appreciated.

Our leaving the city of Johnstown was for no othe reason, than to accept a smaller church, away from th strain and pull of a big city. We are now within 35 mile of the Riddle homestead and also nearer our own childre with the exception of one.

The reception the night before we departed was love ly in every aspect and was well attended. They gave to u gifts of appreciation, one, a single new bill, not so ofte seen by most of us. Thanks so much—Johnstown Thir Church.

The Lord was good to us, for our trip to New Pari was made on roads which were clear of ice and snow not even rain.

The New Paris people were ready for us, with freshly decorated parsonage and a lighted Christmas tre in the window, under which were a bushel of fine apple and 12 qts. of apple butter. Our goods were unloade the next morning and within a few days, we were quit well in order. This Church planned and carried throug a very acceptable reception, featuring Christmas musi and some very good musical talent. Seven Brethren mi isters were present, besides four local ministers eac giving a brief word of welcome. In this reception part were four relatives, one being the aged mother of th Pastor.

Christmas services and festivities are now over. We ar now settled to a regular schedule, seeking to do that fo which we have been called.

Surely this is an abbreviated report but perhaps it wi suffice until a later date. Our prayer is that our entir Church may have a lively and prosperous New Year an be the avenue for the winning of many souls to the Lor Jesus.

The Riddles—E.M.R.
New Paris, Indiana.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

NEW PARIS, INDIANA. The Milford and New Par choirs joined in presenting a Christmas Cantata, pr senting it in each church on succeeding nights.

One of the aims of the New Paris church for th new year is to increase Sunday School attendance to 15 and to add 10 new members to the Church.

LOREE, INDIANA. Supply ministers will fill the pu pit of the Loree church while Brother Claud Studebak and wife are on a Vacation Visit to California. This Brother Studebaker's first visit to California.

YOUTH CRUSADERS

(Continued from Page 13)

rom off thy feet," signifying the necessity for reverence in approaching Him. The structure of the tabernacle continues to bear out this idea.

Sacrifice. As one entered the tabernacle the first thing o meet his eye was the altar of burnt sacrifice. This mmediately reminded the priest who entered in to do upreme sacrifice on atonement day once a year that the irst step in true worship is sacrifice. This means more han the modern conception of "sacrificing" some pet habit r thing for a period of time, notably the lenten season. This sacrifice symbolizes the death of the Son of God on Calvary. The Christian symbolizes that same leath by "being crucified with Christ," turning over his vhole being to the One who was his Sacrifice. He trusts n the spilled blood of his Saviour.

This structure—the tabernacle—also teaches us that we he believers are the priests of God (See I Peter 2:9; Rev. 1:5, 6). Only the priests of that day could enter nto the Holy of Holies, and that only once a year. So now only the "priest," the believer in the High Priest, has the privilege of "entering in." But we must make the 'sacrifice" before proceeding further. One cannot read he Revelation without becoming conscious of God's favorite title for His Son, The Lamb. John the Baptist was he first to ascribe this title to Jesus (John 1:29).

The Spirit of Worship. The Jews in Jesus' Day had overlooked the significance of the tabernacle in the matter of the spirit of worship; they placed too much emphasis on the **form.** Jesus came to make the Old Testament forms live and vibrate with meaning.

Leaving behind the altar of sacrifice in the tabernacle ve next come to two items of furniture: on the right the Table of Shewbread; on the left the seven-branch candlestick. Jesus claims to be both the Bread of Heaven, and he Light of the world. (Read again John, chapters 1 nd 6.)

There before the priest was the altar of incense burning incessantly before the great veil which separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies. Before entering into he very presence of God one must bow in reverent prayerfulness—the act which is symbolized in the burning of incense. Also, he must accept the prayer which esus offered for him in the seventeenth chapter of John —the prayer which holds good until His return to earth.

The priest then entered in (once a year) to the Holy f Holies to sprinkle the blood of the sacrifice on the Mercy Seat within this holy place. This, of course, symbolized the sprinkling of Jesus' blood for us on Calvary. The believer then must accept heartily the sprinkling of esus' blood for him before his worship will be acceptable.

This done, the priest was ready to return to those vithout the tabernacle and pronounce the benediction of God (Numbers 6:24-26) upon the people. So the Christian is now ready for God's benediction; it will not only less him, but those with whom he associates!

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

NATURE SPEAKS OF GOD

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bear more fruit.

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me." John 15:1, 2 and 4.

ONE EARLY SPRING MORNING I found a vase of beautiful peach blossoms on my desk. Their delicate pink petals and stamens gave promise of rich fruit to come. But these blossoms would never bear fruit, they and the slender branches to which they clung, were no longer a part of the tree which sank its roots into the earth for nourishment and then raised its branches to the sun and air. These blossoms on my desk were separated from the source of life and would soon die, without ever bearing fruit.

So it is with every human soul separated from Christ, the source of our life. Acquire all knowledge, amass wealth, power and prestige, yet apart from Christ we can do nothing. Without the spirit of Christ in our lives we are like a vase of plucked blossoms, perhaps fair to see, but without power of life. As a blossom severed from the vine can never bear fruit, so a man's life cannot be fruitful without Christ's strength.

Prayer

O Christ, abide in us today and fill us with Thy Spirit that we may bear rich fruit for Thy Kingdom and be coheirs with Thee of the glory of God. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Miss Vesta Hoover,
Meyersdale, Pa.

REFLECTIONS

Alfie W. Hallman

I asked the roses as they grew,
Richer and lovelier in their hue,
What made their tints so rich and bright.
They answered: "Looking toward the light."

Ah, secret dear, said heart of mine,
God meant my life to be like thine,
Radiant with Heavenly beauty bright,
Simply by looking toward the light.

—Gospel Herald.

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. Thirteen women, nine men and two boys were present Thursday evening January 12th, for Organizational meetings of W. M. S. and Laymen's Organizations. The groups also elected their officers for their first year of operation.

A comparative report reveals attendance on January 8th of this year as 76 as against 26 last year.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz was radio speaker on WTTR Devotional Program on January 26th.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Dewey Yoder presented the work of the Gideons in the Valley Church the morning of January 22nd.

ADRIAN, PENNA. BRUSH VALLEY BRETHREN. Brother David L. Rambsel writes to the Editor, "Just a note concerning our work. We're still getting accustomed to the new field, but the harvest is ripe and there is much to be done. In spite of bad weather the church service has been averaging 140, Sunday School 130, Sunday evening 66 and Prayer Meeting 20. We observed an impressive watchnight candlelight service on New Year's Eve."

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Howard Dykstra, of the Ohio Temperance League, was guest speaker the evening of January 15th.

The Film, "Missionary to Walker's Garage" was presented the evening of January 22nd as a part of the S. M. M. Public Service.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. The A Cappella Choir from Taylor University presented a Sacred Concert in the New Lebanon Church on January 27th.

The Miami Valley District Laymen's Rally was held in the New Lebanon Church the evening of January 16th. Rev. Clarence Copp of Prescott U. B. Church was the evening's speaker.

GRATIS, OHIO. The Gratis Church was host to a Youth For Christ meeting on January 21st.

NEWARK, OHIO. Two deacons and two deaconesses were recently elected: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon H. Wilkins, and Mr. and Mrs. Irvin F. Cooperrider.

(Continued on Page 19)

JOHN WILLIAM DODSON

JOHN WILLIAM DODSON, for many years an elder in the Brethren Church, of Quicksburg, Virginia, passed to be with his Lord on January 17, 1956. Our prayers and assurance of the eternal hope in Christ Jesus our Lord go out to the loved ones who survive. A full Obituary, presented by Brother John F. Locke, appears on page 19 of this issue.

ATTENTION: INDIANA BRETHREN

NOTHING is so disconcerting as to have your Evangelists arriving late. This is evident from the tone of your correspondence to this office.

We would advise you that there is nothing that we can do about it from this end. The record of mailing dates is kept by the Editor. If everything goes all right "from start to finish" the **Evangelist** is mailed on Tuesday afternoon previous to the date appearing on the front cover. (Even though Wednesday is assumed to be our regular mailing date.) This means that we give Uncle Sam FOUR FULL DAYS to deliver the paper to the various states by Saturday, the day the paper is dated.

We feel that even the Wednesday mailing date should allow the Post Office sufficient time to deliver the paper by its date line in all but the far-distant places—but then, we do not run the Post Office Department.

The obvious situation, especially for you good Indiana Brethren, is pointed up by recalling to mind the account of one church which received three weekly issues in one local delivery. Obviously, we cannot control such situations from here. We suggest that if you continue to experience delay that you speak to your postmaster. Persist in your efforts until you have carried your trouble through to your state distribution center (or centers). There, we believe, you will find your trouble.

Thanks to you from Indiana who have taken the time to write us about this difficulty, and, in view of the present situation, please allow at least two weeks past dateline for your paper to arrive before writing relative to its delay.—W. S. B.

COMING EVENTS

MEXICO, INDIANA. Revival Services—**February 6-1**
—Rev. Percy C. Miller, Evangelist; Rev. Wayne Swihart Pastor.

The Editor's Pulpit

The Art Of Listening

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED how, so often, so many people are ready to talk? Have you noticed how so few are ready to listen? Yet God, our all-wise Maker, has endowed us with one mouth, yet two ears. The beauty of such an arrangement has led many a sage, who, beset with the babel of tongues, to remark that God has given us two ears and only one mouth, that we might hear twice as much as we say.

All parents are aware of the eagerness of children to want to talk while parents are talking; also while parents are giving instruction to their children. One happy household we know of, has fairly well conquered this tendency on the part of children. The parents have coined, and use, the phrase, "You can't learn anything with your mouth open." Think about it for a moment. God has yet to create a person who can talk and listen at the same time.

"Be still, and know that I am God." Strong, sincere words. Yet so challenging that they call from us the best in the art of listening. There is a time to speak and a time to listen. God give us grace to know which is the best time for each.

The development of the art of listening can be valuable in the following areas: Self-improvement, better understanding of God's will for our lives, and a better preparation for service for Him.

The best example of the Christian's attitude toward hearing the Voice of God (listening) is that of Samuel. As a boy, Samuel heard the voice of the Lord one night. He went to Eli, the Priest, for information. He listened as Eli gave instruction. Thereupon, when God spoke to Samuel once again, Samuel was ready with the answer. The memorable words of Samuel, "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth," have become a monument to the fact that we, too, will do well to listen for, and to, the Voice of the Lord.

IN CHURCH. How often, during worship services have we seen people engaging in conversation during the prelude, scripture reading, even during prayer and the pastor's message. How all of us are tempted at times to make comments to our neighbor during the services. Common courtesy insists that we be quiet while someone else is speaking. In Church, of all places, we should not only be respectful to the minister, but the occasion calls from us a greater reason. The reason is reverence toward God. The music, the scripture, the prayer, the sermon. All of these are more than the mechanics of a church service. Brethren, these, when coming to us from consecrated Christian servants, represent to us the Voice of God WITH A MESSAGE FOR US. If we are engaged in conversation ourselves, how can the message of God reach our hearts? We are to that degree, barren in our spiritual lives.

IN DAILY DEVOTIONS. Bible reading, Prayer and Meditation. How often we have heard and seen these three given as making up "daily devotions." It is easy to read a portion of scripture. It is easy to make a prayer. But then for us to take the time to sit and meditate. How hard this seems to be for us. Yet how else can we really listen to the Voice of God?

IN DAILY LIVING. Somewhere some time, in the course of the day, God wants to talk to us. He has a special message for our hearts for which the time was not ripe during morning devotions. For our good, and the good of His work, it will

(Continued on Page 18)

APPRECIATION

OUR THANKS to Brethren of the Benevolent Board, and writers, who have cooperated so well with the Editor in supplying material and suggestions for this special Benevolent Issue of the Evangelist. W. S. B.

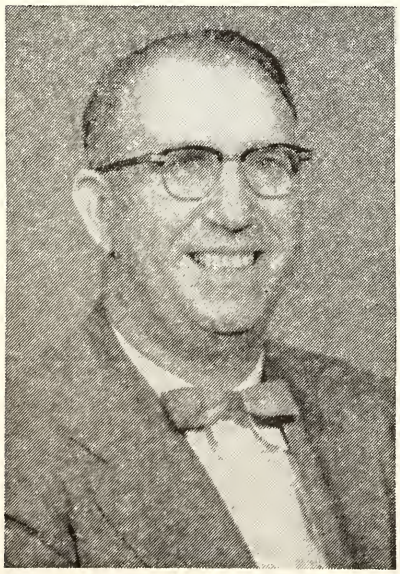
As the President Views the Brethren's Home Interests

ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO the Brethren's Home did not mean much to me. Yes, I am sorry to say, I thought it was just another place for aged people to go when they no longer could provide or care for themselves—just another institution, if you please, much like the old county home. Such places must be dull and lonesome. There surely was not much to interest anyone in such places.

How wrong my ideas of the Brethren's Home were. Although I lived within a few miles of our Church Home for years I never took the time to visit and to see the vast difference between this home and just a public institution.

When I was chosen to become a member of the board, I accepted, thinking this was another uninteresting job someone must do. Again I was wrong. After visiting the Brethren's Home, with other members of the board, I soon realized that here was something to be proud of and a work which I have found to be very interesting.

Since the Brethren's Home represents so many things of interest, I would like to pass on to the Brethren people a few of the things that interest me and which should be of interest to every member of the Brethren faith.



John R. Johnston,

President, Benevolent Board

First, let me state that a completely differen atmosphere exists at the Brethren's Home tha in public institutions, because only Brethren peo ple of good standing in the local churches ar admitted. This accounts for the Christian attitud of the residents and the fellowship enjoyed.

Secondly, there comes to my mind our duty a Christians to provide for our Brethren. It surel is a privilege instead of a duty to serve our Lor by supporting the Home especially when we hav such a splendid place towards which we may di rect our efforts. Then it is only natural for ever Christian to be interested in the welfare of hi fellow man. How better can we express this in terest than in helping to provide a good Chris tian home for our aged?

If we take a slightly selfish attitude, which w are inclined to do so often, we obtain a certai amount of self-satisfaction having someone sa "Well done" when the job is completed. This each and everyone may do, because the job ha been done so well that the Home now enjoys th highest rating the State of Indiana can give suc an institution. That position has been attaine only through constant improvements which hav been made possible by the backing of the peopl of the Brethren Church.

Surely this place represents the very heart o the Brethren people. How else can the rapi growth of resident members be accounted for In approximately six years the number of peopl residing at the Home has increased almost 5 fol (growing from about 5 or 6 in 1950 to approxi mately 28 to date). The vast increase in applica tions clearly show the desirability of living i church homes as compared to public institution

Another point of interest is the fact that th Brethren's Home cannot be considered just place for aged people to go when they cannot car for themselves. Upon visiting the Home, man of the residents are found to be caring for them selves, their rooms and in some cases helpin with meals. These people are not dependent bu have given their life earnings to come to th

(Continued Bottom of Next Page)

Why The BRETHREN Should Have A BRETHREN'S HOME

John C. Eck, Past President,
Benevolent Board of the Brethren Church

FIRST OF ALL in considering this question we need to recall that the Brethren have always considered it one of the duties of the Church to care for the aged, and in the course of time the Lord led some Brethren, such as John Early and his sister Lydia Fox, to set apart some of the Lord's gift to them for such a Brethren's Home, and Henry Rinehart of Flora, Indiana.

While neither of these Early Brethren saw their dreams become a reality, nevertheless they planted the seed and others watered till the Brethren's Home became a reality.

Second to none is the fact that aged folk are much more content in a Church operated and Church maintained home than in any other similar place for caring of aged folk. This is the testimony of many who have had the experience. Just as recent as January first this year it was my privilege to visit one of the newly built and maintained Church Homes in our valley, and the members expressed their thankfulness to be able to be in such a fine fellowship of Church folk and management.

This fact is also the testimony of any welfare, or Case worker as they have opportunity to transfer folk from public operated to private Church Homes.

Many of the Brethren who are receiving assistance from the superannuated minister's fund are missing the fellowship of such associations as is found in the Brethren's Home.

You, as a member of The Brethren Church, have your share of the responsibility to support the Brethren's Home with your prayers, visits and gifts to the Home; and of those that are not residents of the Home, preferring to stay in a private home, hoping that some one will be willing to care for them when such care is needed, and who receive a monthly assistance to help care for such work.

This private home care is becoming more and more of a problem for the individual Church to try and solve. The Brethren's Home is the answer, when the Home is not full to capacity as is the case at the present time.

Therefore it is your duty and responsibility as a Brethren to help share in this ministry to the aged of the Church and it is one that you should consider prayerfully, following the commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as Thyself."

If you are a 10, 15, or 20 per center you will want to share a part of your blesssings with your aged Brethren. The 10 per-center is found in Leviticus 27:30. The Jewish faith require 15% to their Temple. If we as Gentile Christians are enjoying our inheritance, as born again believers in the only way of salvation, through the Redemptive Blood of the Son of God, we should try the 20%, which is allowable income tax deduction.

I am sure after you have perused the pages of this official organ of the Brethren Church, you will want to have your share in caring for the Brethren, whether they be a member of Brethren's Home family or in some private Home.

New Lebanon, Ohio.

The President's Message

(Continued from Facing Page)

Home. Some have no family to care for them in time of need. Others come for companionship with people their own age. The reasons they come are not as important as the fact that they come, because the Brethren's Home is just what it is claimed to be—a part of the Brethren Church.

Covington, Ohio.

The Brethren's Home A RESPONSIBILITY of The Brethren Church

Rev. C. A. Stewart, Pastor, Flora, Indiana

AS A RESULT of the foresight of some of our earlier brethren who saw the need of a home to care for the elderly people of the Brethren church, we have a very nice and comfortable Home located just outside the corporation of Flora, Indiana. I believe the Christian church shares the same feeling toward those who are unable to care for themselves. There are many Homes of this kind supported by the various denominations. In caring of those we believe we are rendering a Christian service that is pleasing unto our Lord for He said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." We believe this is applicable in caring for His people whether Jew or Gentile today. We also read that His condemnation was upon those who refused to care for those in need.

Many of our churches feel very keenly this responsibility but there are those who seem to think the responsibility belongs to some one else and not to them, but, regardless of how remote we may be situated from the Home, the responsibility still rests upon every member of the church. For many years the residents there were few, but the situation has changed and the Home is now full, and many applications are being made, and those wishing to enter must be placed on a waiting list. The main building and the three cottages are full. This adds up to one thing needed, and that is another large building, or a wing on the main building. But as it is there is a great expense incurred in caring for such an institution. The Benevolent Board was forced to spend a lot of money on the Home to meet the requirement of the State of Indiana for the comfort and safety of the residents. It cost many thousands of dollars to meet the demand and to get top rating from the State. This could not be helped and no complaints should be registered against the Board. We have a nice comfortable Home, and, we are proud to say to all, "This is our Brethren's Home." But this is not all the cost; it takes a lot of money to operate and maintain a Home like this. There must be a Superintendent and Matron, a cook and nurse and man and wife to help with the washing and ironing and the outside work. It is impossible today to get help for their board and a few cents per hour. Dependable help is hard to get and they demand salaries that compare with wages other places. This places a responsibility upon the entire church. The Board must meet this expense, but they cannot do it unless each one of us contributes to this fund.

We wish it were possible for the entire church to visit the Home and meet the residents and the fine staff of workers. The Board is to be commended on having such fine and capable people as Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kuns, as Superintendent and Matron. The place is kept clean and is a desirable place to live; the food is good and plentiful. Let us all get back of the Board and give them a good offering.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

BENEVOLENT OFFERING

(For Brethren's Home and Retired Ministers' Fund)

Make checks payable to L. V. King, Treasurer, and address Rev. L. V. King, 1033 E. Main St., Louisville, Ohio.

The Brethren Church Home

THE BRETHREN'S HOME, located at Flora, Indiana, is the result of the gifts, labors and prayers of many people, over a considerable number of years. We have now for the people of our church, the main building, three cottages, besides the small farm and necessary buildings which a small farm requires. It is a Home well maintained and of course must comply with the demands of the Indiana Board of Health.

Such an institution will never be self-supported. The expense is too great, needed labor is high and the farm is not large enough to warrant a very large income. We were very fortunate for a few years, by receiving good gifts from people who desired to enter the Home. Through special gifts, plus the good offerings once per year from the churches and some annuity gifts, we were able to build up some resources and also make the necessary repairs and add new equipment as seemed necessary. There was also the building of the three cottages.

However, the past three years the offerings have not been so large, monies from wills have been less and the special gifts have likewise not been so heavy. Consequently, it has been necessary to draw upon our resources for the past few months. This can only go so far, as some of this money is in annuities, and only the interest can be used.

THEREFORE, BRETHREN, OUR CHURCH HOME TREASURY IS IN NEED OF A LARGER SUPPORT.

The Super-annuated Minister's fund is now **in the red.** This fund helps with a gift, rightly deserved in every case, each month of the year for aged ministers and widows of ministers, who have labored in the church for years. These folk are not living at the Home at Flora but in some cases in their own home or with relatives. This small amount is greatly appreciated by these worthy folk. But, listen — at last General Conference time, it was absolutely necessary for the Board to cut $5.00 from each check, every month during this year. That amount of $60.00 per year less means a considerable loss to some of these people.

Remember—that we have a number of ministers in our beloved church who could not qualify for the Brethren Minister's Pension Fund, due to being past the 65 year limit. No one can come to their assistance when they cease their labors as some have, except our Board.

You may now understand why the Board is so insistent that our offering this February shall be much larger than last year. Also recall that this Board functions in a dual capacity: namely for the Brethren's Home and the Aged Ministers' fund.

We have a contract with every person in the Home at Flora. Legally and morally, we have a promise to keep. It is a moral obligation. What will it be for these folk next year, less? or back to the amount which they had hitherto been receiving?

Please, count it a real privilege for service.

In His name,

Rev. E. M. Riddle,

Secretary, Benevolence Board
New Paris, Indiana.

BENEVOLENT DAY OFFERING

FEBRUARY 19, 1956

Give Liberally for a worthy cause!

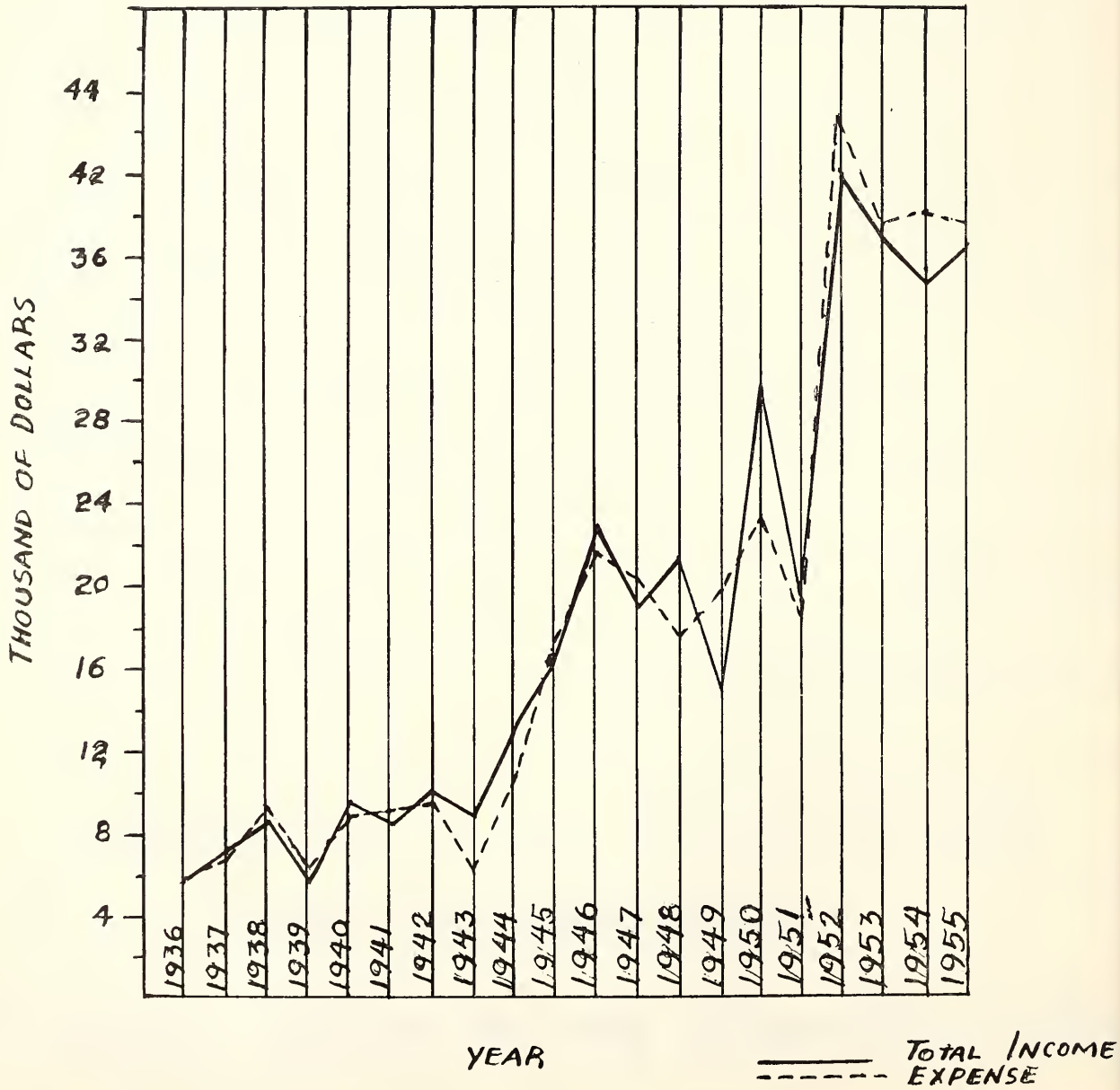
Some FACTS and FIGURES of THE BENEVOLENT BOARD

Rev. L. V. King, Treasurer, Benevolent Board

BELOW YOU WILL FIND a graph showing the relation between total earnings and expenses per year per thousand of dollars since 1936. The increase in expenditures in the years 1952 and 1953 was due to the many improvements made necessary by the State of Indiana such as rewiring, replumbing, repainting, repointing walls, increase in help and salary, etc.

Below on the next page you will also find some figures which ought to be of interest to every Brethren who has had a share in contributing to the Benevolent Fund. They will tell you some trends you need to know.

You will notice under resources that the fund kept increasing each year until the peak was reached in 1954.



Then note the decrease for 1955 and decrease as of Jan. 1, 1956.

This decrease of our resources is due to 2 things:

First, we have not had sufficient receipts for the past few years to meet the increased expenditures and we have had to draw from these resources. However, if the trend continues for the next three years it will mean that we will have no resources left.

Second, we have not had any large gifts through wills and life members the past few years. Since the Home is full we are not securing any funds from new life members.

Many people have asked why such a large resource fund? You can see now what a blessing this has been. We could not have met the demands of the State without these resources.

However, in being compelled to withdraw from this fund, we have been defeating the real purpose of the fund, namely the building up of our resources so that we would have sufficient to add a wing to the present building.

The reason for a wing is to make more room for life members, increase the hospital facilities and to make better provision to separate the men's and the women's departments. This increased fund would mean that we would not need to come to the Churches and ask for a large contribution toward such an addition.

But now, since we are compelled to use this fund for regular running of the Home and Ministers' Fund we will be compelled to do one of two things:

Either, forget the addition OR come to the Churches for a large building fund.

Then too, many of our people forget that these resources are made up of endowment, the principal of which cannot be used; of Annuities; (And the Board does not feel it wise to spend this money as long as the annuitant is living) and gifts from life members. Here the same policy holds as in Annuities.

Again, there are many people that do not realize that this Benevolent Offering is for two separate funds. First, the Brethren's Home fund which feeds about 30 people 3 meals a day, beside wages, clothing, medical expense and upkeep.

Second, the Superannuated Fund which at present ministers to 6 Ministers and their wives, one Minister, and to nine Ministers wives (Widows). We have had to reduce this amount this past year by $5.00 per month, thus breaking the precedent of the past ten years.

It can be said of those receiving help that none sent in any complaint, although we know it has meant a sacrifice on their part. Some return their tithe, others give gifts at regular time of offering, and all express gratitude for the gifts. But we just must come back to the payment of former years if we are to do justice to these worthy servants who now need your help.

PLEASE, STUDY THE GRAPH AND FIGURES AND THEY WILL SHOW THE GREAT NEED.

Louisville, Ohio.

	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955
RECEIPTS OF TREASURER	$ 6,018.41	$10,189.44	$22,639.51	$33,638.97	$42,366.37

Highest was in 1952—$53,377.16

	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955
EXPENDITURES OF TREASURER	$ 4,565.50	$ 8,616.93	$16,784.85	$19,852.51	$37,523.19

Highest was in 1952—$43,554.92

	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955
MINISTER'S FUND EXPENDITURES	$ 457.84	$ 1,589.46	$ 3,399.08	$ 5,143.70	$ 7,023.36

Estimate for 1956—$5,600.00

	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955
SUPERINTENDENT'S EXPENSES	$ 847.00	$ 2,742.00	$ 4,684.00	$ 5,733.00	$18,828.75

Highest was in 1954—$20,097.00

	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955
RESOURCES	$ 4,507.00	$ 4,638.00	$10,372.00	$25,276.00	$26,583.00

Highest in 1954—$39,299.00. Jan. 1, 1956—$19,475.00

	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955
GIFTS FROM CHURCHES	$ 2,719.00	$ 3,387.00	$ 6,950.00	$ 8,913.00	$10,569.00

Highest in 1953—$11,057.00. This included gift of $1,000.00

Greetings from The Brethren's Home

THE OLD YEAR HAS FLED into Eternity and the New Year is here again. In behalf of the members, we want to thank all our good Brethren, Woman's Missionary Societies, Sisterhood girls and all who made Christmas possible at the Brethren's Home.

Christmas Eve we presented a devotional program, and then Santa and his helpers presented each one with many gifts, sent in from the different Churches.

We had a twenty-two pound turkey for our Christmas dinner, money was donated for it. All members were able to come to the dining room but Mrs. Coin, who has been confined to her room for several weeks.

There has been a new member added to our list here, **Mr. Gilbert Jordon,** making twenty-two members.

Services are held each Thursday afternoon by Rev. Stewart, Pastor of our Flora Church, and each Tuesday evening by Rev. Belote, a member of the Home.

We hope many of you folk can visit the Home this coming year. We feel that our Brethren Churches can be justly proud of our Home at Flora. May God Bless everyone.

Yours in His service,

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kuns,
Supt. and Matron.

AN APPRECIATION

Topeka, Kansas,
December 7, 1955

Dear Rev. King:

When the check came I took it out and looked at it and said, "Praise the Lord, that will buy groceries for another month." Thanks a million. For many years I taught my Church people to contribute to the Benevolent Fund. Enjoyed doing so, of course.

And now, in our retired years we are enjoying being a recipient from that fund. It's sort of a blessed, happy feeling that the Lord cares for His own. Praise His Name.

Had to miss Sunday School and Church Sunday because of a severe attack of sinus. First for a long time. But the Doctor gave relief.

Rev. W. R. Deeter.

CHRIST ALONE CAN SAVE

The passengers were assembled on the deck of a sinking ship. Life belts were handed around and hastily adjusted. One man refused to take his.

"I'm a fine swimmer," he said; "I'll pick up something to hang on to before I get tired."

"Better take a belt to be on the safe side," advised a friend.

"Not a bit of use," he persisted; "my chances are as good as anybody's."

"Better trust Christ for salvation and come into the church!" warned a young Christian, speaking to his worldly friend.

"There is no use," said the other. "I think my chances of eternal life are as good as anybody's. I am not a great sinner. I've lived decent all my life—far more decent than many of your church members who are trusting in Christ."

Well, what about it? When the ship sank the good swimmer went down, as did all the others, but he never came up. The men with life belts who could not swim came up and were saved. What of the man who goes down into the grave without Christ, trusting in his own goodness? Will he come up and be saved? Jesus says of those who trust in Him for salvation: "I will raise him up at the last day."

If our own goodness could save us, then Jesus need not have come at all. Only the righteousness of Christ Jesus can triumph over death and raise us up to eternal life. Be on the safe side—take a life belt!—Elim Evangel.

TOUCH HIS GARMENT

The Bible tells us of a man whose name was Asa. It says he was diseased in his feet and the "disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the Lord, but to physicians," and he "slept with his fathers." The Word also tells us of a woman who had an affliction for twelve years "and had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing better but rather grew worse." But when this woman heard of Jesus she sought Him out in the crowd and touched His garment for she said if she might but touch His clothes she would be whole. And the Word says: "And straightway . . . she felt in her body that she was healed of the plague." God is still saying to His people, "I am the Lord that healeth thee."—Sel.

MOTHER'S RELIGION

A young man came to Chicago from a farm in Indiana, where he had left his old mother. Soon after this, Bob Ingersoll spoke at the Auditorium, and the young man was persuaded to go to hear him, by a former Indiana schoolmate, who had become a great admirer of Ingersoll.

"You'll see how Colonel Ingersoll will bowl over the doctrines of believers in the Bible," said a friend. "It will open your eyes some, I tell you."

Ingersoll was in excellent form, and gave one of his usual adroit and ingenious speeches. As the friends were leaving, the admirer of Ingersoll turned to the young man from the farm saying:

"Wasn't that great? Did you ever hear anything like it? Didn't he just sweep away every stick and stone, every argument and theory of the orthodox side? He simply didn't leave anything of the other side at all—he certainly made a clean sweep."

"I know one thing he didn't sweep away," said the young man from Indiana.

"What was that?"

"My old mother's religion."—Selected.

THE PERFECT ANSWER

An infidel had just finished giving an argument against Christianity and salvation. He said that if anyone cared to argue the point, to come up on the platform. A grey haired Christian slowly walked up and sat down on the platform bench.

"What is your argument?" asked the infidel.

The elderly man took an orange from his pocket, peeled it and began to eat the fruit, much to the wonderment of all. When he completed the eating of the orange, he looked intently on the infidel and asked, "How did the orange taste which I ate?"

"I do not know; I did not taste it," replied the puzzled skeptic.

"Just so with salvation," replied the believer. "You are talking against something you have not tasted or experienced. But I have tasted and seen that the Lord is good and I advise you to do the same."—Nathanael Olson.

Favorite Sermons by Brethren Pastors

Rev. Wilbur L. Thomas

OBEDIENCE

OUR SUBJECT today is one that should be familiar to all Brethren people but I am inclined to think that it has fallen by the wayside, so to speak, for we hear very little said today concerning it.

We as Brethren have always believed and practiced the basic teachings of God's word. We believe that in order to have Salvation we needed to hear the word, believe the word, repent of our Sins and turn to God. Then we believe and perhaps more strongly than most groups in obedience to the revealed will of God; to His commands.

Where there has been a genuine faith and repentance, obedience follows without any hesitancy. There is no neglect of the command to obey the will of God at the very threshold of Salvation. The Blessings of Salvation do not come to one who knowingly or willfully refuses obedience to the will of God. I John 2:3 tells us: "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His Commandments." Matthew has written for us the great commission, and in the 28th chapter, the 20th verse, Jesus says "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." In Acts 5:32 we have the strong statement that "God gives the Holy Spirit to them that obey Him," and in Heb. 5:9 we have these words, "And having been made perfect, He (Jesus) became the author of Eternal Salvation unto all them that obey Him." Paul warns against the Judgments that fall upon those who obey not the Gospel of Jesus Christ in 2 Thess. 1:8. Jesus speaking in John 14:21 says, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me, and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." Obedience to the whole will of God then is necessary to every sincere disciple. And this obedience must begin at the threshold of the new life.

There are three particular obligations laid upon the believer at the very beginning of his Christian experience that call for obedience. The first is Confession, then Baptism and Confirmation, or the laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Spirit. Let us notice that these all, Faith, Repentance and Obedience, which includes Confession, Baptism, and Confirmation, are all personal acts of man. They may be described as his conversion. God's work accompanies him every step of the way. Paul in Rom. 6:17 and 18 says, "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." And Peter writing in Ist Peter 1:22, 23 tells us, "seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the Brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. These writers tell us that we have become a child of God because of our obedience to His will as revealed to us, there-

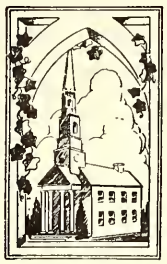
by allowing His Grace to be shown in our lives by the act of the new birth which is given from Heaven.

Then Peter says, "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the Grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance, but as He which hath called you is Holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation." As obedient children then it becomes necessary for us to study God's Word that we might know His will for us. Some of the Commands that we find are Jas. 4:17, "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not to him it it is sin." Jas: 5:12 says "Swear not," and in the sermon on the Mount, Matt. 5:33-37 Jesus says, "Swear not." Do you?

John 13:14 gives us Jesus' command in these words, "If I then your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one anothers feet." Others are "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church." "Love thine Enemy." "Whatsoever ye would that men do to you, do you even so to them." "Love one another." "I beseech you therefore, Brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." "Grudge not one against another," "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord."

There are, so I was told by Bro. I. D. Bowman, over six hundred do's and don'ts in God's word for us to obey. How many are you obeying today? Yes, I believe that this subject needs to be studied in our churches today. We must be obedient if we want God's blessings to fall on us. May we seek to be better followers of Him who said, "Ye are my Friends if ye do whatsoever I Command You."

Leon, Iowa.



What's Doing in the Churches

SPECIAL SERVICES AT TEEGARDEN, INDIANA

It was a real privilege for this Pastor to spend two full weeks, October 3-16, with Rev. J. E. Berkshire and the good people of Teegarden, Indiana, in an Evangelistic effort. Brother Berkshire and Brother Metcalf did a splendid job with the music during the meetings. Attendance was mighty fine, with a real Spirit of Prayer and Devotion to Christ and their Church shown in the regularity of their presence in every service.

The weather was real wet throughout the two weeks, but did not bother these fine people in the least. Many visiting delegations were present from North Liberty, County Line, Elkhart, and other Churches in the community. We enjoyed the fine special music from time to time.

The Pastor was entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Holland, and certainly was treated like Royalty. We enjoyed immensely the noon and evening meals in the homes of many of the good members. Each day was spent in calling upon the inactive and unsaved. There was one reconsecration and addition to the church. We pray that the way was opened for many more.

This Church is just entering upon a forward looking program for the Lord. With the purchase of a Parsonage, and a Pastor living upon the field, the future should hold many blessings for them. The opportunities there are of course unlimited—as they are nearly everywhere. These good people have taken some very fine steps forward in the past year, and under the capable leadership of Rev. and Mrs. Berkshire, should continue to grow in the days ahead.

We thank each of them for the wonderful friendship and fellowship extended our way during these two weeks —the gift for our Services was more than sufficient. May God's Blessing abide with them richly in the New Year.

R. K. Higgins.

REVIVAL MEETING AT LOREE BRETHREN CHURCH

The Loree Church experienced great joy in the Spirit through the ministry of our beloved brother, Rev. C. A. Stewart as preacher and Mr. Joe Thomas as music director and soloist. Meetings began on Sunday evening, Nov. 27th and continued over Sunday, December 11th.

Rev. Stewart is well known in the Brethren church, now pastor at Flora, Indiana, but all the years of his pastoral life he has also served the church in many evangelistic meetings in many of our churches. This was the fourth time we had labored together in such meetings, sometimes

he the evangelist and I the pastor and other times I the evangelist and he the pastor. His sermons were excellent gospel preaching, and strong appeals were made to the unsaved, but the unsaved were conspicuous by their absence. Only five different unsaved persons were in attendance, and none of these over three times, and others once or twice.

Our attendance was good, averaging about 125 and some nights a house full. The first week was stormy weather and one night service could not be held because of storm which left us without heat or light. Rev. and Mrs. Stewart drove back and forth to their home, a distance of 30 miles from Loree, but came in the morning and evangelist and pastor and wives were entertained in various homes for noonday dinner; and such dinners, I mean such wonderful dinners and such delightful visits. Rev. Stewart was pastor at Loree for nine years and the whole community has words of praise for him. Such rich fellowship with good friends of so many years. Of course these years have made their ravage of death. The evening meal which was light indeed was served at the parsonage and the fellowship with the Stewarts, such a charming couple, was a continual joy.

The Music director, Joe Thomas, is quite well known and a popular radio singer of gospel music. His solo renditions were superb and his congenial way of directing congregational singing was of the highest order. He also drove back and forth from Indianapolis, a distance of about 70 miles from Loree. His work in the city made this necessary. Our people were well pleased with the preaching and the singing and have only praise for both the preacher and the singer.

Our field was gleaned of children who are old enough to make that good confession of faith, having been received into the church at the close of DVBS, and the unsaved did not attend, although many of them were visited and they promised to come, but, of course it is rather easy to defer, if you have no definite interest. However we had a good meeting.

Visitors from other churches increased our attendance. Rev. Sibert, pastor at Burlington, Indiana, and quite a number of his congregation attended at different times. Joe Thomas had led the singing in their meeting only a short time before. Rev. Gable was in a meeting at the Center Chapel church during part of the time of our meeting, with Rev. Bates as evangelist; otherwise we being neighbors would have exchanged visits. We are grateful to Rev. Stewart and his congregation at Flora for the privilege of having him as our evangelist. The day of evangelism is never over, it is the primary task of the church. Let us carry it on faithfully.

Claud Studebaker, Bunker Hill, Indiana.

THE CHURCH is not to be judged by the frailties or failures of its members. The church is to be judged for what it can do for a person, and what it offers in its ideals, its resources, and not by those who have let the church down.—Robert Boyd Munger, in **What Jesus Says** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Laid to Rest

BECKONE. Joseph Franklin Beckone greatly loved and respected member of the Mt. Olive Brethren Church was born April 12, 1868 and departed the earthly life Jan. 3, 1956, aged 87 years, eight months and twenty-one days. As was his custom, he was present in Sunday School, and morning and evening services, on the Lord's Day preceding his passing to be with the Lord. He had helped to rebuild and improve the church some years ago, donating his months of labor. Few equal or surpass so excellent a record of attendance as was his. It was true of him that he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. His body was laid to rest in the cemetery adjoining the church. Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the undersigned. A large company of his friends filled the church.

John F. Locke, Pastor Mt. Olive.

WALLACE NUTTING tells in his autobiography about a certain man who was famed as a collector of Bibles. The man's interest was not in the truth which could be found in the sacred books. He was concerned merely with their monetary value when they were placed on the market. He would go home with profanity pouring from his lips after he had bought a rare copy of the Bible. He never opened a single volume to read what was written on its pages. Nutting says that even though the man once paid $100,000 for a single Bible, "he didn't get enough for his money."—From G. Ernest Thomas in **Spiritual Life in the New Testament** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

A MODERN PARABLE is told about a man who dreamed that he attended a convention of the devil's advocates in which a discussion was in progress concerning the best means by which they could destroy the Christian faith. Someone suggested that they spread the idea that the Bible is a fable; another proposed that they say everywhere that Jesus was nothing more than a man; still another suggested that they whisper widely that there is no God, no Saviour, and no Heaven. Some in the company expressed approval of each of the plans as it was proposed. The oldest of the devil's advocates waited until the others were finished before he rose to address the assembly. "Let us go far and wide across the earth," he said, "and let us tell men that there is a God. We will agree that there is a Saviour, and that there is a Heaven. But let us tell every man on the earth that there is no need to accept and follow Christ **now**. Let us assure them that tomorrow will be soon enough." Cheers greeted the suggestion, for the devil's advocates realized that one of their number had found a way by which they could bring death to the soul.—From G. Ernest Thomas, in **Spiritual Life in the New Testament** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
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Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

HIGH LIGHTS FROM ARGENTINA

The Bylers

A RECENT LETTER from Rob and Jane in Buenos Aires tells of events taking place during the Christmas holidays. Although they all enjoyed a fine Christmas, with the children happy over their gifts, David had a return trip to the hospital—this time an appendectomy. He has had a bit of trouble lately, evidently caused by congested appendix; now he should make rapid strides to recovery.

The other children are quite well. Betsy, the latest comer to the Byler household, continues to provide much joy to others in the family with her fine disposition and sunny spirits. Rob and Jane have been exceedingly busy. Their full schedules, along with the excessive heat (summer down there), have proved pretty exhausting to them. They hope for a brief vacation after Rob returns from summer camp at Cordoba the latter part of January.

The New Headquarters Building

A property has been purchased in Buenos Aires for headquarters and possibly for a radio-recording studio at a cost of $10,000. The building helps to meet an immediate need, but will require the expenditure of several thousand dollars to adapt it to the future needs of the missionary program. This property, however, does not provide living quarters for the Bylers, which must be secured in the immediate future. Approximately $20,000 will be needed for the two buildings.

Some gifts had come in from various churches, organizations and individuals for this purpose; these funds helped to supply part of the purchase price. The National W. M. S. has set as its goal providing the funds necessary for both needs. Such building has been greatly needed for some time, and all the workers are jubilant at this first step forward. Even though the structure will require some remodeling to adapt it to future needs, it can be used immediately for some of the work and remodeled as the program develops.

Another MUST in Argentina

Along with the Bylers' joy over the newly-purchased building exists also their great concern that more North American workers shall come to help with the mission program. They are carrying a tremendous load. Almost every letter from them brings their appeal and similar ones from the Argentine workers for more Brethren missionaries from the States. WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

NOTES FROM NIGERIA

Charles M. Bieber

The primary purpose of the Nigerian mission is to win men for Christ. To achieve this purpose a mission program has evolved with twin purposes so closely related that they are themselves primary: to awaken men and women today to the fact of their need for Christ; to train for tomorrow men and women who, while themselves living Christian lives, will also be deeply concerned for the spiritual and material welfare of their brethren.

It is difficult in any case to measure the extent to which the Nigerian mission through the years and especially at this moment is attaining its purpose. Statistics may show the number who have been added to the church, who are enrolled in the schools or who have been helped by the medical department. But statistics cannot show the extent to which Christianity has made a difference in the lives of individual Christians. They cannot show, either, how much the Nigerian Christian is concerned for his fellow man, the sincerity and consistence of his Christian witness (or lack of it) or the extent to which his training has been successful in making him able to carry on these tasks of the church which were earlier carried on by the missionary.

Yet statistics have value. It is impossible not to see enormous growth in the difference, for example, between the reports of 1949 and 1954. The facts are that then there were four churches among seven mission stations, with 814 members; now there are eleven churches among ten mission stations, with 1715 members. Then the work of the mission was being carried on by thirty-eight missionaries; now by sixty-nine. The number of paid African religious workers has increased in five years from forty-six to ninety-eight, outvillage preaching points from 40 to 110; enrollment in evangelistic classes from 896 to 2,954; and weekly listeners to the gospel message from 3,200 to 6,200.

In 1949, 133 were baptized into the church. In 1954 there were 347 baptisms There had been more than 300 in each of the two preceding years, and it seems apparent that in 1955 there will be well over 400. The Nigerian church gave nearly $1,100 in offerings in 1949. This past year their gifts amounted to more than $2,700. (There is a greater difference here than is easily seen; difference in currency exchange rates which shows that giving is now four times as much as in 1949.) The church of Jesus Christ has taken enormous strides ahead.

(Continued on Page 18)

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE WAY OF A LIE

First, somebody told it,
  Then the room wouldn't hold it,
So the busy tongues rolled it
  Till they got it outside.

Then the crowd came across it,
  And never once lost it,
But tossed it and tossed it,
  Till it grew long and wide.

This lie brought forth others,
  Dark sisters and brothers,
And fathers and mothers—
  A terrible crew.

And while headlong they hurried,
  The people they flurried,
And troubled and worried,
  As lies always do.

And so evil-bodied,
  This monster lay goaded,
Till at last it exploded
In smoke and in shame.

When from mud and from mire,
  The pieces flew higher,
And hit the sad liar,
  And killed a good name.

—Anonymous.

Some ways of evil speaking are slander (Rom. 3:8), tale-bearing (Lev. 19:16; Prov. 11:13; 20:19), and flattery (Psalm 12:2-4). Some of the results of evil speaking are the separation of friends (Prov. 17:9; 16:18), continual strife (Prov. 26:20, 21), trouble (Prov. 21:23), no fellowship with God (Psalm 15:1-3; James 1:26), and condemnation at the judgment (Matt. 12:36, 37). Some of the causes of evil speaking are hatred (Psalm 41:7), idleness (1 Tim. 5:13), and an evil heart (Luke 6:45).

The remedy is to have a change of heart (James 3:11, 12), obedience to God in the putting off of such things (Eph. 4:29, 31; 1 Peter 2:1), the guarding of one's words (Psalm 34:13; 39:1) and of one's thoughts (2 Cor. 10:5; Phil. 4:8), the praying for good words (Psalm 141:3) and for good thoughts (Phil. 4:6, 7), and being filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18-20).

Let those who are spoken against take it patiently, imitating the Master's example (1 Peter 2:19-23), minding their character, rather than their reputation (1 Peter 3:16; 2:12), and find comfort in God's Word (Matt. 5:11, 12).

"When it seems that you have trials
Almost more than you can bear,
And you stagger 'neath the burden
That seems larger than your share;
There is One whose arm is mighty,
Go to Him with all your care—
  Say nothing.

"Like the Master Who reviled not
When so shamefully reviled,
Suffer silently reproaches,
Are you not His own dear child?
To your losses and your crosses
Troubled heart, be reconciled—
  Say nothing."

To believe falsehoods is as sinful as to tell them. Do not give false comfort to evil doers in the church lest you uphold them in their iniquity and become partakers of their evil deeds (1 Cor. 5:11). Thus Paul warns the unwary and unsuspecting against the "good words and fair speeches" of those who are living for low ends of their own to the destruction of the church (Rom. 16:17, 18).

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,
As to be hated, needs but be seen;
But seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

—Pope.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for February 12, 1956

PARABLES ON PRAYER

Lesson: Luke 18: 1-14

HOW THANKFUL we should be to the Gospel Writer, Luke. He gives us a glimpse into the personal life and teaching ministry of our Lord that is not to be found in the other Gospels. The two parables included in today's lesson are a good example of this fact.

The first is the Parable of the Unjust Judge. Christ's reason for giving it? "That men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

This is a familiar exhortation and is repeated often in Scripture. Paul, the Apostle, enjoins the Christians at Rome to be "patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer" (12:12). He exhorts the Church at Ephesus to pray "always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit" (6:18). The Philippians were urged to make known their requests "in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving" (4:6). And to the Colossians, Paul wrote: "Continue in prayer" (4:2).

With these passages in mind it is not necessary to labor the point that PRAYER is absolutely ESSENTIAL for continued spiritual growth in the life of the Christian. Every true Child of God should know this by experience.

It is important to note that this is a parable of contrast. **In no sense of the word is God to be compared with the unjust judge!**

The unjust judge showed neither fear of God, nor concern for his fellowmen. He was **hard-headed and hard-hearted.** He was completely indifferent to the constant pleadings of the widow and her just cause of complaint.

The widow was persistent in her desire. She knew what she wanted, and would not relent until she had her petition.

Her persistency, in spite of overwhelming odds, is meant to remind us that we are not to forsake our hour of prayer when obstacles arise. Rather, when we find it hardest to pray, that's the time to pray the hardest.

Although everyone may not agree with him, the words of G. Campbell Morgan, the "Prince of Expositors," are noteworthy:

"Nearly all expositors declare that the parable teaches us that we must be importunate ('to urge persistently') in prayer. I hold, on the contrary, that it teaches that when we are dealing with God there is no need of importunity . . . Our Lord said, 'And shall not God avenge the elect, that cry to Him day and night . . . I say unto you, that He will avenge them speedily . . . '

"God does not require persuading . . . 'Speedily' is the word. Quicker than the lightning's flash is the answer of God to the cry of His people."

The parable of the Unjust Judge, then, would teach us the **result** of praying. The parable of the Pharisee and the Publican would teach the **manner** of praying.

Thus, in these two parables on prayer, we are told the following: 1. God does answer prayer. 2. The Christian is to **pray** so that he will not **faint.** 3. The results received from praying will depend, to a great extent, upon the spiritual attitude and condition of the one praying.

The earnest soul often laments his spiritual weakness. Andrew Murray discovered the secret of a powerless Christian experience. A secret we all must learn. "Between our **impotence,** and God's **Omnipotence,** intercession is the blessed link."

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

LET YOUTH WORK THEIR WAY

HERE are some interesting ideas which I recently picked up that had been lying around my office for about a year. Sometimes these "picked up" articles prove to be of genuine value. I shall not give the article in its entirety, due to a lack of space, but I will try to condense it so as to set down the main points. The reader can go on from there in his own imagination.

WORKING YOUR WAY TO CAMP

Alert youth workers should be "on their toes" and getting ready for the spring and summer seasons right now. The success of your summer work will depend partly on your early preparation. One of the things the youth workers recognize as so valuable to every youth is the summer youth camp. So much so that most youth workers would like to find ways of getting more young people into these camps. Also, many of the youth who need the camp experience most are either not interested or do not have the Where-with-all to make it possible.

One difficulty with most systems which have been set up is that those who already can afford the week of camp, or who would be there anyway, take the honors and leave the same needy ones behind, thus crystallizing the situation that already had been in existence.

Then, too, young people need to learn things such as earning and spending, the value of a dollar spent for the Lord, and others, as well as the spiritual training in camp itself. They need to come to a genuine appreciation of youth camp and how others are contributing to their own development—and good times.

Keeping this in mind, we believe that the WORK-YOUR-WAY plan is a good one.

HOW IT WORKS

Early in the year (at least by February) let the sponsor contact several adults who he thinks will take part in the program by "hiring" one or more young people. They are to provide work (of all kinds) for these young people to do as they earn their way to camp.

These adults agree to provide enough work for the young people during the next few months to enable them to earn their funds for camp. Tasks might be baby-sitting, shoveling snow, mowing lawns, washing cars, shopping, washing windows, and other things. Efficiency at the tasks must be insisted upon.

Depending upon the tasks, 75c to $1.00 per hour—two hours or so per week—will enable him to earn his way in about 10 to 14 weeks. He might be "tipped" on the side for spending money.

SOME SUGGESTIONS

1. Do not pay the young people in cash. If you do, they might find it necessary to "borrow" occasionally from the fund, and by the time summer comes around and camp dates are showing on the calendars, they will be without the needed money. The adults instead deposit the money for the young people, perhaps with a treasurer who has charge of the handling of funds for the program.

2. There must be a method of keeping track of the time spent in work and the cash earned. Both the youth and the adults should have a record. This will help the treasurer keep his records straight, if a treasurer is appointed. A good idea is to mimeograph a supply of tickets, each with a stub, to give to the young people who are working their way to camp. After each task is finished, the youth hands ticket and stub to the adult to fill out. Tickets and stubs have a place for the name of the youth, hours worked, amount of cash earned, and signature of the "employer."

3. Let it be understood that money earned is not to be used for purposes other than summer camp. If the worker cannot go to camp when the time comes, or he has changed his mind, he may either hold it for another year, or give it to someone else who might like to go, but who has not joined in the program. There should be some agreement on the matter of how much can be earned, and whether or not the one working is paying his way for

the current year, or someone else's way, before entering into the contract. Youth sponsor, youth and adult must agree.

4. The youth should agree, in case they cannot show tickets with the adult's signature, to accept the record of the one for whom they worked.

5. The program should be complete—that is, there will be no one honored in a special way, or sent to camp free of charge for that year.

With this kind of program, there is something that EVERYONE can do to earn his way. Let the sponsor make a thorough check before innovating this program so that he won't have more workers than there is work provided. Also, make sure that this program does not degenerate into a PART-TIME-CAMP-WORK-part-time-spending-money affair.

TRY IT!

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

WHAT IS YOUR FOUNDATION?

"To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour." Galatians 2:5.

IN THIS PASSAGE of Scripture Paul was defending his ministry to the Gentiles before the members of the council at Jerusalem. In it he recounts the opposition which was stirred up by those who differed with him as to his methods of work. And then he declares that he did not allow these detractors to turn him from his stand on the matters under discussion for even an hour.

God has given us winds to sweep the earth and purify the air. And he has also given us rocks to steady the earth. And the rocks do less harm than the winds. Paul took his stand upon his convictions of right, and refused to be moved from them. There are times to advance in the Christian life, and there are also times to STAND still. In the sixth chapter of Ephesians Paul equips the Christian soldier with sword and shield, with helmet and spear, and when he has him all ready to do battle, he adds, "Having done all, to stand.

"What is it that enables men to stand amid the temptations and hardships and uncertainties of life? Is it not the conviction of the truth of the Gospel? Said a careless church member, "It does not matter what you believe. I feel at home anywhere." And that man was a wanderer among the churches, never a worker. IT DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE what you believe—and how strongly you believe it! Convictions give strength; because they grow roots, and these roots hold thought and emotions steady. This, then, is the sure foundation of our faith, convictions grounded on the immutable and unchanging teachings of God's Holy Word. "Here I stand. God help me I cannot do otherwise," declared Martin Luther as he stood before the Diet of Worms, with his hand upon the Bible. And Luther's convictions have influenced a whole world.

THE EDITOR'S PULPIT

THE ART OF LISTENING

(Continued from Page 3)

be too late to wait until evening vespers. So at the right moment during the day, He wants our attention. Is our heart and mind open that we might hear His knocking, His still small voice? Moses heard the Voice of the Lord, during the day, when He turned aside to the burning bush. Saul heard God's voice on the Damascus road, during the day. So can we.

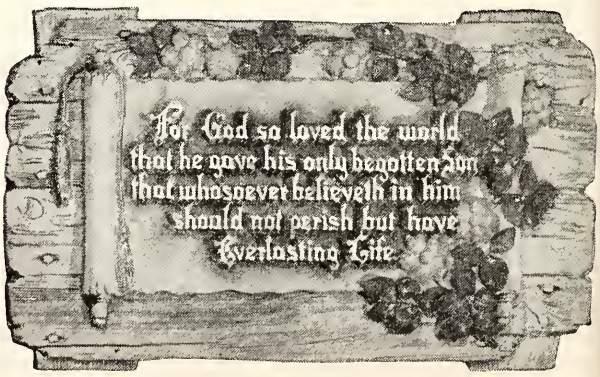
"I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord," is a dedication that will mean more to us and our Christian service, if, in our worship at Church, in daily devotions, and in the daily walk, we are alert with our mind's ears, through the art of listening, to the Voice of God.—W. S. B.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

(Continued from Page 15)

Medical and leprosy work have also kept pace with the growth of the church and the mission. No new hospitals have been built in the past five years. There continue to be three. But at Lassa there is an entirely new plant; at Garkida there has been an enormous improvement in facilities and at the leprosarium new buildings are in process or in planning. There are five busy dispensaries now to compare with the two of 1949. Five leprosy treatment centers have been added to the work of the leprosarium which has been such an effective evangelistic and medical force through the years. And whereas there were 17,000 new cases treated in 1949, last year there were upwards of 30,000.

Educational growth has been equally dramatic. In 1949 there were seven junior-primary schools and one senior primary, with an enrollment of just over 2,600. In addition, the Waka Training Center is very busy training more than one hundred teachers and fifty wives in four different schools.—(from the Gospel Messenger)



In Memoriam

ELDER JOHN WILLIAM DODSON

July 23, 1874—January 17, 1956

The REV. JOHN WILLIAM DODSON, for many years an elder in the Brethren church and faithful minister of the Word, died January 17, 1956. Brother Dodson was born July 23, 1874. The days of his earthly pilgrimage being 81 years, five months, and twenty-four days. He is survived by his three daughters and two sons, and his wife, the former Miss Sallie Keyes, whom he married in 1898.

Elder John W. Dodson was ordained to the Brethren ministry in the days of the late Elder P. W. Wiseman, whom he later succeeded in the pastorate of the St. Luke church, and the late Elder E. B. Shaver, D.D. His active ministry extended over a period of some 26 or more years. During this time he served as pastor of the Liberty church, Quicksburg, Virginia where he lived and the Trinity Brethren Church in the Powell's Fort Valley as well as the St. Luke church. He was a man greatly loved by his parishioners and highly respected by those who served with him in the ministry. I have served with him in several revival meetings and knew him to be a man of sincerity, humility, deeply spiritual and faithful in the ministry.

Funeral services were held in the Dellinger Funeral Chapel at Mt. Jackson, Virginia by the undersigned, and the Rev. Edward L. Miller of Maurertown, Virginia. His body was laid to rest in the Mt. Jackson cemetery.

John F. Locke, Pastor Bethlehem
and Mt. Olive churches.
Maurertown, Va.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Thirty-nine members of the Junior and Senior Sisterhoods engaged in an evening of bandage rolling following a pot-luck supper recently.

Pleasant Hill's "Mitten Tree" project is reported as a success. Forty-six pairs were given to Margaret Lowery of our Krypton, Kentucky Mission.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. The Youth of the Church were scheduled to furnish the night by night special musical numbers during the recent Evangelistic Services in the North Manchester Church.

The two Brethren Youth groups held a farewell party the evening of January 20th for German exchange student Peter Ehlers who was scheduled to return to his home in Germany the last of January.

ELKHART, INDIANA. From the Elkhart bulletin we learn that Dr. W. I. Duker continues to show improvement at his home, R. D. 5, Goshen, Indiana."

Six new members were baptized and received in the Church on January 8th.

WARSAW, INDIANA. From the Warsaw Mid-Week Reminder we quote: "The Junior Church has completed their fine project of purchasing new chairs in graduated sizes for their use in Junior Church services. The new project is the purchase of the New Testament edition of the "Talking Bible" and a portable record player." This album will be available for the sick of the church and for those whose eyesight prevents their reading the Bible themselves.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. The W. M. S. presented the program the evening of January 22nd. Miss Ida Arnone, of India, student at Goshen College was speaker.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. The Nappanee bulletin reports that their Sunday School attendance was up an average of nine during the final quarter of 1955.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Attorney Melvin Finer, a local converted Jew, spoke to the Lanark Laymen the evening of January 16th.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Brother A. T. Ronk, the evening of January 17th, presented to his laymen pictures and a talk on his six months experience in Mexico.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. Two new members were received on January 8th.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

ROOTS

BACK IN THE FORTIES a little religious book called "Predicament of Modern Man" became a best seller. One of the most gripping phrases in the book was a memorable characterization of our era as "a cut-flower civilization."

In our culture there is much to be admired. But if we as people have not roots, we shall not stand on the stage of world history for long. No need to wait a generation or so to test that. Just look at individuals who have cut themselves off from their spiritual roots. They are wandering and lost. They are not set deep in the ground of reality. They flourish for a time only to die and leave nothing behind them, no harvest for their labors, no seed ideas for future generations. The person with roots, the truly "good People," "shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season: his leaf also shall not wither: and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Psalms 1:3.

Mrs. Charles Gift,
Waynesboro, Pa.

Brethren Historical Library
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Bible Quizzes

FOR ALL TO PLAY

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"What's Your I. Q.?" Bible Quizzes
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Enjoyable Bible quizzes. Paper, 35¢

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120 Bible character quiz studies. Paper, 35¢

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Instructive fun for young and old. Paper, 35¢

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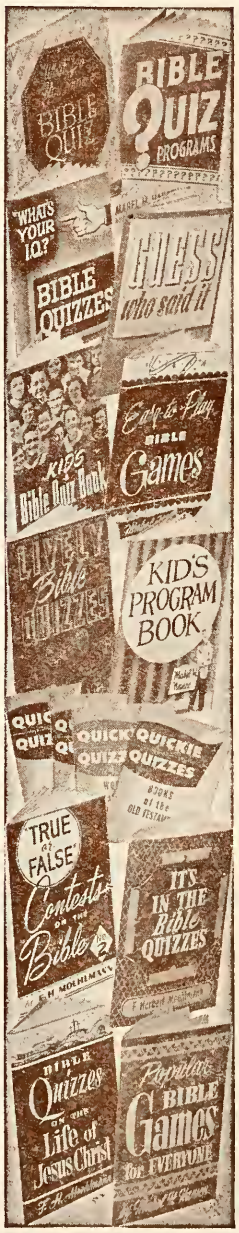

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Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

WASHINGTON, D. C. "Cash Day" was observed recently. The Washington bulletin notes that about $5,000.00 was needed to wipe out the debt on their church building. (We do not have the results of this most recent Cash Day, at this printing, but as soon as we know, we will pass the news on to the brotherhood. Editor.)

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. The W. M. S. conducted their public service the morning of January 26th, with Mrs. Clyde Carter, returned missionary from India, as speaker.

February 4th speakers at Third Church were Rev. Glenn Adams of the Cambria City Mission, at the morning service, and Rev. Norman Dettra, of Harrisburg, Temperance speaker, in the evening.

BERLIN, PENNA. The Berlin Sunday School is to be engaged in a Contest running from February 19th through April 1st.

A Youth-sponsored Family Night is scheduled for February 27th.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. The Sisterhood Book Review was held during the weekly Prayer Meeting service recently.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. The W. M. S. Mission Study was held by the combined Societies in the form of a round table discussion the evening of February 2nd.

(Continued on Page 15)

COMING EVENTS

BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY
Northeastern Ohio District
at
Mansfield Brethren Church
490 Bowman Street, Mansfield, Ohio
Sunday, February 19th—2:00 P. M.

Read more details of this Rally, on Page 10 of this EVANGELIST.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Southern Indiana District Laymen will hold their regular Quarterly meeting at the Burlington, Indiana, Brethren Church on Monday Evening, February 20th, 1956. We especially urge a good attendance, as there will be a special program, the guest speaker being Dennis Snell, Missionary of the "Air Mail from God Mission" in Mexico. Special music by the men's quartet of Burlington.

Supper hour 6:00 to 7:00 central standard time. Please send reservations to the Burlington church.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

ATTENTION: LITERATURE SECRETARIES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Second Quarter Order Blanks have been mailed. If you fail to receive one, please notify the office.

BE SURE TO RETURN THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to insure receiving your Sunday School supplies on time. ORDER NOW, AND AVOID DELAY.

The Brethren Publishing Company,
Ashland, Ohio.

The Editor's Pulpit

Lovers Of Democracy, Take Note!

ANYONE WHO MAY BE entertaining any ideas that Russian Communism is intending to accede to so-called western, or Democratic ways of living, in the interests of World Peace, may well take note of communism's new move in Red China.

A recent dispatch released by the U. S. Information Agency, Washington, D. C. headlines, "MORE COMMUNIST READING ORDERED FOR CHINESE CHILDREN." Following is the release as it came from USIA:

"Red China is intensifying its efforts to fill its children's minds with officially correct symbols of Marx, Lenin and Mao Tse-Tung.

"The USIA said that the New China News Agency has printed a directive ordering all authors to provide children this year with at least one work which reflects 'the communist spirit.'

"The Directive, issued by the Union of Chinese Writers, explains, 'It is absolutely essential to enhance the idealogical and political character of the literary works for juveniles and children. Such character should be manifested through the form of vivid and artistic symbols. There must be novels, stories, poems, songs and plays. There must also be fairy tales, folklore, scientific and imaginative reading matters and sensational novels. Works should indoctrinate the juveniles and children with the communist spirit.'"

After studying the above action of the communists in Red China, we are led, as you no doubt are, to ask the question, "Where does that leave us, and what is the probable long-run result of their efforts?"

Christianity, pure and undefiled, is the antidote for all communistic propaganda. Basically, communism is Satanically inspired, while Christianity and Democracy in its truest form, are God-centered. Communism defies God and the church, seeking to destroy peace, liberty, and the freedom mankind enjoys under Christian Democracy. Communism is Satan's effort to wipe the knowledge and worship of God from off the earth.

Where Christianity abides, communism cannot gain ground. Only in those countries where the gospel has not gone extensively, or where perverted forms of the true faith have held sway, has communism gained ground.

It has not gained any substantial ground in our own country because the basic American democratic belief, centered in the Church, has given our people something better. Therein, likewise, is the danger!

Every non-Christian is a potential victim of communism's subtle propaganda. Such may belong to churches, may even hold high positions in churches. Where Christ is not the center of a life, then glorification of self, hate and greed take over—these being basic elements of communism. Any person not instilled in the basic beliefs of the Christian faith (which beliefs are the foundation of Democracy) is open to seed sowing whereby the church, God, and liberties and privileges are considered non-essential. There is the danger.

To effectively combat communism's insidious doctrine, abroad and at home, we must adhere to, live, and propagate our pure Christian faith which results in hearts born again in Christ. We must take note of the millions of children in our land who never go to Sunday School, who, learning about democracy, are not being taught the Christian faith which backs up and guarantees their way of life. We must win them to Christ before they becomes slaves of something else.
W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Nancy Mack Benedict

AN ENGLISHMAN who became a believer in the Quaker religion, and who more or less became a self-appointed Missionary, had much to do with the German settlement of Pennsylvania. This is of prime importance to the Brethren. The young man in mind, was none other than William Penn. He made missionary journeys to Germany in 1671 and 1677 after he had learned the German language. In visiting Germany he learned of the suffering of the pious German Christians and the unspeakable atrocities inflicted upon them during the long wars and religious persecutions.

Following the establishing of his colony in America in 1681 and 1682, Penn returned to the scene of his missionary efforts in Germany and reported to his friends, of a land where they could be free in body and mind. This was indeed the land of opportunity for he promised them land for the sum of 10 cents per acre, or if they would rather rent, the price for this virgin land would be one cent per acre. No wonder the Germans came to America and Pennsylvania as fast as sailing ships could bring them to the inviting and hospitable shores.

A Historian writes, "Many died in the crowded vessels, and many others were sold into servitude, from three to seven years, to pay for their passage: on becoming free, each was entitled to 50 acres of ground. Children were often separated from their parents as if they had been African slaves. The Mennonites were first to protest against such practices."

Some 200,000 Germans alone reached the state before the Revolution. Benjamin Franklin is said to have become concerned so much that he wrote in 1753 that, "they threatened to over power the English." His fears were without foundation, for the German people knew the meaning of oppression and when the English yoke became unbearable they helped the colonists throw it off. A battalion of German farmers fought all through the War of Independence, and won not only the respect of General Washington but of the enemy as well. However we usually hear of the Hessions and not these loyal citizens of German extraction. The Hessians were mercenaries sold by the German princes for $30.00 a head to fight England's battles with the Colonists. About one fourth of those surviving remained in this country after the war. There are numerous and substantial citizens in the land today who trace their ancestry to these forced against their wills to fight for a country in which they had no interest.

There were boundary disputes between Maryland and Pennsylvania, and to head off the invading Marylanders, Penn urged the German emigrants to "come and occupy the lands along the border to prevent the encroachment of the Marylanders." Thus Franklin County, then Cumberland, was settled in the main by the Germans.

Waynesboro in Franklin County, lies at the western foot of South Mountain. In 1897 it celebrated its centennial. Matthew Nead writes of its location and of the locality, as it was the apparent focus of the settlers: "To diversify and add additional charms to the surroundings, two streams of water of almost equal volume, the headwaters of the old Indian creek, the Antietam, born of the mountain springs, seek and find channels which take course through glen and glade, by brooding mountain pass, to their junction farther south.

"The southeastern portion of the county of Franklin is not as well watered as the central and western portions. The east and west branches of the Antietam and, a few miles to the westward, the tributary, Marsh run, are the water features of the Waynesboro locality, which were potent factors in determining the choice of the early settlers."

No wonder, when the Brethren who settled in and around Germantown started looking for new lands to invade from the stand point of missionary endeavor, that they looked to this German settled section of the land. Alexander Mack, and his three sons, Johann Valentin, Johannes and Alexander Jr., had come to Pennsylvania, landing at Philadelphia in September 1729. Later, perhaps following the death of the Senior Mack in 1735 Johannes, or John as he was commonly known, felt the urge to go to the Antietam section of the state in what is now Franklin County, and combat the inroads made by the Seventh Day Baptists. There had been keen competition for the enrolling of the German settlers in the various tenets of the Dunker religion as well as the religion of the Seventh Day Baptists.

The year that John Mack came to the beautiful wooded and fertile section of Pennsylvania is not known. It may be buried somewhere in old musty records awaiting unearthment. This is the way that the Brethren first came to this section of the state. The son of the organizer, himself, carrying the faith of his father and others of like mind.

This was an attractive section of the state. It was in a beautiful and mountain walled fertile valley. Ingress

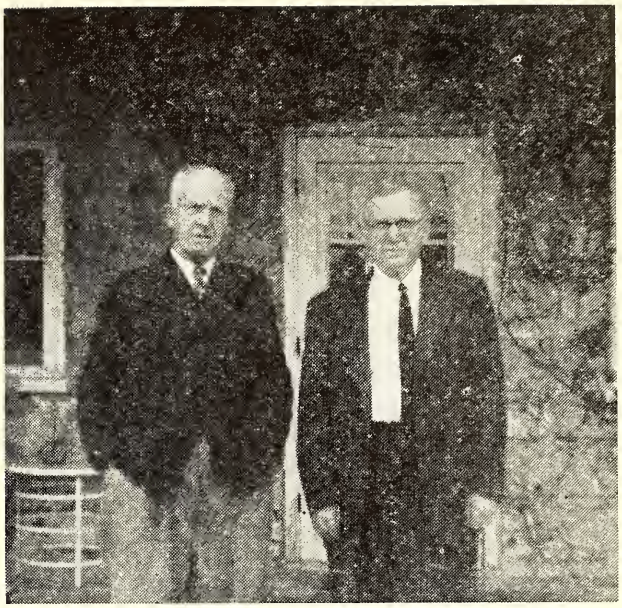
from the north was easy, and it was open to the south leading to the Potomac and to the Valley of Virginia. It was well watered by the Antietam and its branches. Some of the most picturesque scenes the Author has viewed after traveling in all the states of the Union may be found within a few miles of Waynesboro. The old water mills, the stone bridges of native lime stone, the clear as crystal springs with unpolluted, tree shaded streams, make a picture for the brush of the artist. When the tinted leaves of Autumn vie with one another with their myriad of colors, the Artist is indeed challenged by the Master Architect and great Painter of the Universe!

Here the early settlers built their brick homes, not alone for themselves but for generations yet unborn, who should occupy them long after their passing. Here, or from here, came forth those whose names have been seldom mentioned in History, as for instance Eleanor Judkin who in Lexington, Virginia, became the wife of an almost unknown Professor of the Virginia Military Institute. Fame had him in mind, and today he is known as one of the greatest soldiers and Generals that America ever produced, by the name of "Stonewall" Jackson.

Little is known of the activities of John Mack in and around Waynesboro. He is listed as an early settler. Old records have been gone through and are still being gone through and are still being searched which may throw light upon the days so far away. We are at this moment concerned with his son whom he named Jacob. Each generation of Macks found the name Jacob a popular one for the boys and the name of Elizabeth as the popular name for the girls. When Jacob was born to John, we do not know. We know that he was born in Franklin County, and perhaps either in Waynesboro or nearby. In the year 1786 Jacob is listed as a taxable along with his cousin William, son of Alexander Mack, Jr. However we have the record of Jacob's family, as well as the date of his death which was in 1814. We know that on October 16, 1752 he was married to Hannah L. Englehart, who was born July 10, 1735. There were born to this marriage, nine children. The eighth is the one that concerns us in this article. She was born September 20, 1774, dying in April 1874, lacking just a few months of reaching the round one hundred years of age. She married John Benedict. There are numerous descendants, both Benedicts and others in and around Waynesboro.

Nancy was the grand daughter of John Mack, and the great granddaughter of Alexander Mack, the Organizer of the Brethren Church.

There is one to whom we are much indebted for his interest and efforts to discover data regarding the old Mack home two miles east of Waynesboro where Jacob lived and where Nancy was born. This man is John A. Mikesell, who purchased the farm in 1942 from Aaron Hess who had owned it for 33 years. Mr. Mikesell immediately started to search the old records; also to personally remove the unsightly growth from the private cemetery on the farm just a few hundred yards north of the barn. This stone-walled cemetery had been permitted to grow unattended. When the Author and Henry Good visited it some years ago, the first time by the writer, the underbrush, and briars were so thick that it was impossible to penetrate it. This cemetery contains



JOHN A. MIKESELL and HENRY W. GOOD

the graves of some of the section's most prominent citizens and early settlers. Among them were names such as the Royers, McKensies, Keagys, Stouffers, Macks and others. Here John Mack, the son of Alexander Mack and father of Jacob and the grandfather of Nancy, is buried.

With Henry Good, who lives in Waynesboro, and also a descendant of Alexander Mack, the writer has visited the Mack home and we have been courteously received by the owner of the present time. Both are vitally interested in our history. We present their pictures in this article along with the house as it appears today. There are distinct architectural styles in the old place. The house stands along the Amsterdam road within sight of Shank's Mill. Across the creek is the railroad, and the entrance to Needy's cave. Terry Mitchell, of Waynesboro states in his Pen Sketches around Waynesboro, "The low part of the house seems to be older, although there is a section of the stone wall at one place which extends in to the high part. It resembles the kitchen built by John Wallace, and also the cottage of John Phillip Reed, which is about a half mile to the north. There are four dormer windows. Hand-made lath, every strip varying in size, support the old plaster. A clothes rail runs around the wall." The cottage, in old records spoken of as "The Mansion House," was built in Colonial times by Jacob Mack. The exact date of its building is unknown though there are records of its existence as far back as 1770. There are stories of Indian fights in and about the community. It is not uncommon to pick up arrow heads in the fields. The house, built in part like many stone houses of the Valley, is heated by fireplaces. There are three. The roof is protected with heavy slate, with the rafters pinned together. The old barn, between the road and the house, bears the date of 1825, and is a typical Pennsylvania rambling type of structure. It is thought that this was built approximately the time the new section of the house was built. The small section of the house to the

right, of course being the older and the original structure built by Jacob Mack.

The house is occupied by John A. Mikesell and his sister Bessie, a registered nurse. They have made it one of the most restful and beautiful places along the creek. A rapidly flowing spring is the feeder for the large pond across which the ducks make their paths and which attracts the eye of the visitor. A Hydraulic Ram cares for pumping water from the spring to where it is needed. This place must also have been a show place at the time when the farm was owned by the Macks in other days. It is still known as the Mack Farm. Just a little way down the road eastward, is the Old German Baptist Amsterdam Church. However it is not used for church purposes now but has been remodeled and makes a commodious dwelling house. To this church the occupants of the farm wended their way in other days for worship.

Here Nancy Mack was born. Here she grew to womanhood, learning the skills so necessary to conduct the affairs of the thrifty German home. Here she heard the stories of her ancestors, and from here she visited the grave of her grandfather on the farm. It should be stated in shame to those who have no respect for the departed that in recent months vandals have entered the walled-in cemetery and overturned some of the taller of the monuments. Certainly it is an indication of a warped mind, if an individual with a tendency like that could be said to have a mind.

Inasmuch as Nancy was almost the youngest of the brood of nine, she being the eighth, she must have tagged along with her older brothers and sisters as they worked in the fields and at the various trades found in the self contained homes of the period. There were just twenty-one years between Nancy and the firstborn Elizabeth of the Jacob Mack family. However Elizabeth lived less than four years. Two other sisters died young.

The date of Nancy's marriage to John Benedict is not at hand as we write this, but she was a grown woman as she was thirty five when her first child was born. Her marriage, we know, took place in the house of her birth. Its walls must have been crowded as the guests came in for the gala occasion. It must have been many years ago, for her first son whom she named for her father Jacob, was born February 1, 1810. He was married March 2, 1838 to Susannah Wilt, and they became the parents of eleven children. Jacob Benedict died in 1892. The second son whom they named Daniel Mack Benedict, was born near Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, May 8, 1812 and died September 1, 1895. He was united in marriage to Eliza Dunkle. They were the parents of nine children. The third child of Jacob and Nancy Mack Benedict was born June 1, 1815 and was given the name of Elizabeth. She married John Secrest. Elizabeth died February 6, 1890 and is buried in the Welch Run Cemetery of the Church of the Brethren, in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. They were the parents of five children.

While the records in regard to the activities of this woman whose life span was almost one hundred years, are not numerous; we can know her in the personages of her descendants. Among them we find Missionaries, such as Jesse Benedict Emmert who was for sixteen years until his health broke, a Missionary to India. "Men of the Cloth" were numerous as well as men who have made their marks in Industry. Among some of them we may name the late John Good Benedict who was a successful Banker, and President of the Landis Machine Company of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. Still active today is Daniel Norris Benedict, also of Waynesboro, President of the Frick Company, an honored descendant of Nancy. In this connection in passing we might mention one who has honored Nancy Mack Benedict in an outstanding way; he a descendant, in his presenting of Oller Hall to Juniata College, at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. We refer to Jacob Oller. To those who may be more interested in the names of her descendants, and the records of many of them they will be found in the Author's work, ALEXANDER MACK THE TUNKER AND DESCENDANTS, from pages 75 to 113.

Industry, Religion and all walks of life have their representatives in whose veins flow the blood of this woman who was born near the singing creek in what is now Franklin County, Pennsylvania. The old farm is rapidly being developed, and houses with their customary streets have changed the face of the countryside. The Wayne Heights Brethren Church, just to the north looks down upon the old cemetery, and the fields over which this woman, as a child walked and worked, one hundred and seventy-five or more years ago.

In closing the Author desires to express through this article sincere thanks to John A. Mikesell, who owns the farm and who is so vitally interested in securing and preserving the records of the days of Jacob Mack, as connected with the farm, though he himself is not of the line. May he be successful in the future enough that there might be written another chapter in filling out the blank pages which must be rich in history.

St. James, Maryland.

THE JACOB MACK HOME

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

MISSIONARY BOARD TO MEET

On February 14 at the Ashland office, the Missionary Board will hold its quarterly meeting.

Because of the increasing scope of our missionary program—including many areas in this country as well as in two foreign countries—quarterly meetings have become necessary. Inquiries are sent to members before the meeting dates are definitely established to assure a quorum.

Any items of business that should be submitted to the board for consideration should reach the office by February 13. The Executive Committee convenes on the evening of February 13.

Just in case you have forgotten—or never knew—the personnel of the board, here are the members and the capacities in which they serve:

W. E. Ronk, president .....(Ashland, Ohio)
E. M. Riddle, first vice-president (New Paris, Indiana)
John Locke, second vice-president (Maurertown, Virginia)
Everett Miller, third vice-president (New Paris, Indiana)
Mrs. D. B. Flora, treasurer .....(Ashland, Ohio)
J. Milton Bowman .....(Falls City, Nebraska)
John Carnochan, Jr. .....(Hagerstown, Maryland)
Mrs. A. G. Carpenter .....(Ashland, Ohio)
C. Y. Gilmer .....(Manteca, California)
John Golby .....(Johnstown, Pennsylvania)
Harlan Hollewell .....(Milledgeville, Illinois)
J. D. Hamel .....(South Bend, Indiana)
George A. Leidy .....(Conemaugh, Pennsylvania)
Lester Peck .....(Falls City, Nebraska)
Claud Studebaker .....(Bunker Hill, Indiana)
D. C. White .....(Hagerstown, Maryland)
W. Ray Yount .....(Dayton, Ohio)
W. S. Bell (Life Member)..(Milledgeville, Illinois)

AT LOST CREEK

Work on the new parsonage is progressing steadily. Dorman Ronk, who has charge of the construction, has been doing an excellent job of securing the best materials at the most reasonable prices; he has also been doing a considerable amount of the work himself. He has had assistance from several of the local workmen, as well as from one of the teachers at the Riverside School.

A short time ago Mr. Phillips and Mr. Forry from Marianna, Pennsylvania, spent an entire week helping with this building, donating all their labor. Some interested business men have provided materials at a good discount, because of their concern for the project.

The Missionary Board is truly grateful for the help provided by these, and others who may not have been mentioned, for their assistance in this undertaking; particularly do they appreciate the wonderful manner in which the Ronks (Dorman, Joan and Bruce) have fit into the scheme of things at Lost Creek. Besides his construction work, purchasing, etc., Dorman is doing some teaching of manual training at Riverside Christian Training School; Joan is also teaching home economics and performing other invaluable services to the Christian work program at Lost Creek. Even Bruce (just three years old) occupies an important place there among the boys.

We are all so appreciative of every good thing that has been done for the work. And to you, Mr. and Mrs. Dorman Ronk—our hats are off!

THE SHANKS AT WAKA

January 11, 1956
Waka, Nigeria

Dear Clayton and Ida:

While waiting a few minutes for a delayed supper, I'll begin writing a letter. Take another look at the letter head—yes, we're really living at Waka. We moved on January 4, and are living in the house formerly occupied by the Shanksters, who have moved into the new house.

In many ways our house is more than one would expect on the mission field. Before long we'll have running water and toilet facilities installed in the house at Waka. The government has given a grant of money for this purpose. We finally have all of our boxes from home unpacked and the contents properly stored. It surely is nice, living in a large house for a change. I don't bump into Jean any more when I move around nor do I rearrange the furniture when I open the doors.

Girls' school began this past Tuesday with 37 enrolled in the two classes. They are known as lower five and regular five. They are equivalent to the 5th and 6th grades at home.

Since Mrs. Shankster, who was Head Mistress last year, has been elected as mission treasurer, Jean is acting Head Mistress—commonly referred to as H. M. She has quite a heavy teaching load with an average of six classes (40 minutes) per day (Tuesday through Saturday) plus some study periods during the day and at night, plus clinic for the girls' school, plus physical education after the regular classes. I heard her remark tonight that once she gets into the swing of things it will be much easier.

I am teaching one class a day (arithmetic) in the girls' school. Boys' school begins next Monday. My schedule isn't complete at the moment, but I suppose I'll be plenty busy.

We had a very fine Christmas at Marama. All of us ate our dinner together at Royers' house and a good meal it was. We are all well and are enjoying life at Waka. In fact, it's hard to realize we're in Nigeria.

Love The Shanks

Pilot Project

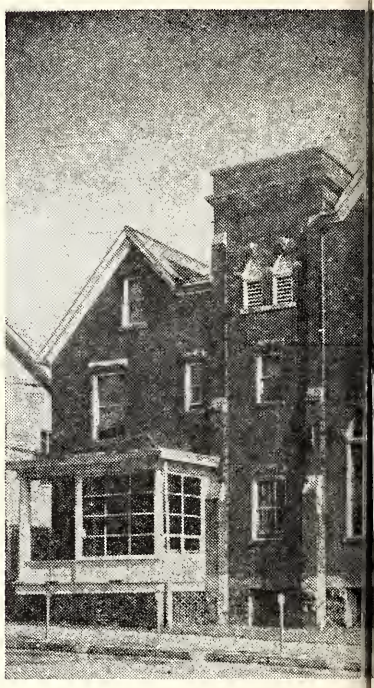
REV. HORA
Main Stree
Meyersda

WE OF THE Main Street Brethren Church here in Meyersdale have had an unusually wonderful experience during the past month, and we would like to share it with other Brethren through the **Brethren Evangelist.**

During the month of November we held a month of intensive Stewardship Education, climaxed by an Every Member Canvass. We used Stewardship Lessons in our Sunday School in the youth and adult classes. I preached stewardship sermons each Sunday. Our Midweek Worship topics were on stewardship themes. We used several filmstrips and one movie on stewardship in our Sunday evening services and meetings of auxiliary organizations. Three letters were mailed to the congregation, keeping them informed of the month's program as it unfolded. Stewardship tracts were enclosed in the letters and in the Sunday bulletins. Finally, six teams of visitors were carefully selected and trained for the Every Member Canvass on the last Sunday of the month. It was a monumental task, one which we believe will result in continuing spiritual benefits for many months, perhaps years, to come.

I should like to explain why we feel that this effort has been of such great value to us. In the first place, our emphasis was directed throughout the month on the basic Christian principle that all we have and are has come from God, and that we really do not own anything —that it is all His, and we are stewards of a great trust that belongs to God. Therefore to be true to our trust and to God to Whom belongs everything, we must commit ourselves and our possessions to Him and use them as He directs. Thus when we come to our Every Member Canvass our appeal was not to the needs of the church, but rather to the need of God's steward to c mit himself and his possessions to God, with primary c cern for the promotion of His spiritual program in world through His Church. This, you can readily comp hend, has a tremendous impact upon Christians of stages of development, and upon the church as a wh It has opened the eyes of many and widened the vis of many to the real meaning and scope of Christian St ardship.

A second reason we feel that this program has b so worthwhile is the personal contacts made by our itors. As we all know, nothing can take the place of personal presentation of the challenge of the Chris Gospel. Our canvassers entered about 108 homes, of m bers and friends and prospects. This personal contact c not be over-estimated in its value. It provided op



REVEREND HORACE HUSE has conducted a pilot project in stewardship with a month's emphasis climaxed by an every-member canvass or enlistment. The results have been most gratifying to this point and are similar to those experienced by thousands of churches that use this approach annually.

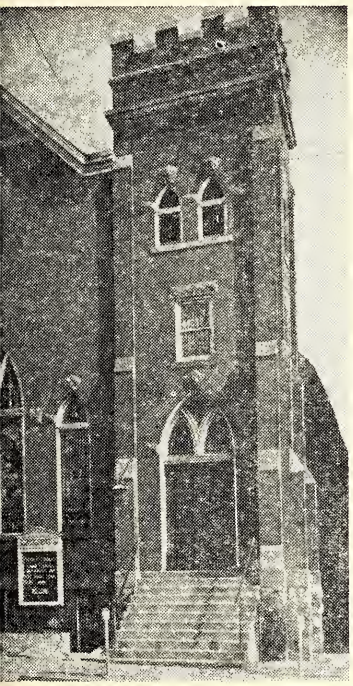
Brther Huse put into action the plans and tools used by other denominational bodies and was careful to follow the details rather meticulously. We are confident that this church has not yet seen half of the results of their efforts.

We commend Brother Huse and the Meyersdale Church for his splendid piece of work, and we urge other churches to use this effective and systematic approach to enlist their people more completely in the Lord's work.

W. Clayton Berkshire.

Stewardship

JSE, Pastor
en Church,
nsylvania



ity for a visual presentation of the work of the rch—locally, district-wide, and nationally and inter-ionally. I should mention here that the visitors had ı-over charts with which to present their story. It gave opportunity for questions and discussion in each ıe. Finally, it led up to the challenge of a personal ımitment of one's financial support to the work of through our church.

he third important result of our month of steward-emphasis is the value it had for the visitors and pastor. We now have twelve members who have been ned in presenting the work of the church to their ow-members. The pastor has undergone intensive study preparation for this program. And the importance urgency of the challenge in the principle we all had n taking for granted, namely, Christian Stewardship, fired our souls with the desire to tell others of its demands and its benefits. Certainly these three results will blossom forth in a real spiritual growth in our church and in the lives of our members.

I believe that the statistical results of our Every-Member Canvass also tell a significant story. Out of the 108 homes contacted, pledges were obtained in 80 of them. Thus, roughly 75% of our congregation responded with a definite commitment. Since this was the first time an effort of this kind has ever been made to get pledges in response to presenting the challenge of Christian stewardship, it seems a most gratifying response. A total of 113 pledges were received (representing husbands, wives, children, and others in some families), making an annual amount of $6,854.40 pledged for the year. This compares very favorably with the amount received in offerings ($6,984.28) in 1953 without any such effort.

In conclusion, I should like to recommend to all my fellow-ministers and their congregations the experience of a month of stewardship emphasis such as ours. I don't think that I am exaggerating when I say that its spiritual impact was equal to a week of revival services, and accomplished something that preaching alone could never have done. I would be glad to share with anyone who would be interested information concerning our methods and resources in our stewardship program. In fact, I believe that consideration should be given to promoting a month of intensive Christian Stewardship throughout the denomination annually. I can think of no more direct and challenging method of appealing to our Brethren people to commit themselves to God and to His work fully.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:10.

"Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gathering when I come." I Corinthians 16:2.

"He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." II Corinthians 9:6, 7.

Sunday School Suggestions by Joseph R. Shultz

(Sponsored by the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church)

A NEGLECTED YOUTH

Rev. Spencer Gentle,

Young People's Divisional Supt., N. S. S. A.

IN MOST of our Sunday Schools of today, you will find very good Intermediate departments and a very healthy High School department. Then, you will find a good class of young married couples, couples who have been married for a few years and have children in the Nursery department or Beginners department.

The Sunday School is very efficient in supplying rooms, teachers and materials for the above mentioned classes; but a very important group of young people is being neglected by most Sunday Schools of today. This group is the younger young adults. Young people who are just out of High School; young men home from the service; college young people who come home during vacation days; young married couples just married; young school teachers; and a host of other young people of this post High School age. This group feels too old to go into the High School class and too young to go into the young married couples class which is composed of couples who have families. Therefore, we are losing many of these people; they either find a Church that has a place for them, or they quit attending Sunday School altogether. Many of them will attend the worship service, and even then feel that there is no definite place for them in the overall work of the Church.

Something MUST be done for these neglected Young People! A Sunday School class must be organized for them! Of course, there are many problems with such an endeavor. The teacher must be a person who is vitally interested in the needs of such a class. It must be realized that the attendance will never be steady because the college people are not present every Sunday. A program of interest and enthusiasm must be inaugurated, but it can be done! In the early days of such a class, the attendance will be 3 or 4 perhaps. Then it will jump to 15 to 20 for a few Sundays, then back down to just a few. This is no reason for discouragement. It is to be expected, don't give up the class. The day will come when the attendance will be more steady. Let's not lose these young people because we do not have the faith to help them out!

One of the most important reasons for not neglecting these young people is the fact that many of them have trained talents that can be used in our Sunday School and Church work. If we make them feel that they have an important place in the church, they will be willing to use their talents for the glory of God. We have here, potential Sunday School teachers, choir members, youth leaders and many, many other possibilities.

But the most important reason of all for beginning such a class is that of keeping these young people in our Sunday School and Church, giving to them the spiritual growth which we all need.

Every Sunday School in the Brethren Denomination should have such a class. Let's not neglect these young people any longer, Let's keep them in our churches!

Goshen, Indiana

ATTENTION

NORTHEASTERN OHIO BRETHREN YOUTH

"HEARTS FOR CHRIST"

"HEARTS FOR CHRIST"—This is the theme of the Northeastern Ohio Brethren Youth Rally to be held in the Brethren Church, 490 Bowman St., Mansfield, Ohio, on Sunday, February 19th, beginning at 2:00 P. M.

Registration will be from 2:00 to 2:30 P. M. in the lower auditorium of the Church. The Inspirational Hour will be from 2:30 to 3:30 P. M. with a special treat for you. An Indian girl has been secured as our main speaker. Her Indian name is PRINCESS WHITE FEATHER and her English name is RUTH DOUGLAS. She is attending a Bible School in Lancaster, Pa., in preparation to be a missionary to her own people, the Cherokee Indians.

You will be inspired and challenged by her message and wonderful Christian testimony.

The business hour will follow from 3:30 to 4:30 P. M. with District President, Ray Aspinall, in charge.

The recreational period will be at 4:30 to 5:45 P. M. A chili supper has been planned for the low cost of 60c. The supper will be held in nearby St. Johns Park at 6:15 P. M. Please have your reservations in by Wednesday, February 15th.

Princess White Feather will be the speaker for the evening worship service at 7:30 P. M.

The age limit is 12 years and older for this Rally.

THE MANSFIELD B. Y. CRUSADERS.

What's Doing in the Churches

MULVANE, KANSAS

Greetings in the name of our Lord!

Another year has gone by. We are well into a new year. By the time you read this one month of the new year will either be gone or almost gone. This past year has had both its joys and its sorrows for us here at Mulvane—our losses and our gains. The Lord has blessed us in our work. The Devil also has been trying to get a hold. As with any work that is progressing for the Lord, Satan is there making the Christian's effort a constant warfare. But—as with God's people of all ages under Godly leaders—we are going forward with Rev. J. F. Burton as our leader.

All of our Sunday services are very well attended—from our Nursery Class to the Adult Classes at Sunday School on into the Worship Service Sunday morning to our B. Y. C. and Adult C. E. group meetings on Sunday evening on into the evening Worship service. We put a lot of emphasis on the Sunday Evening service due to the fact that it seems more difficult to get people to go to Church on a Sunday Evening.

Prayer meeting and Bible-study on Thursday night are doing well considering all the competition we have from our schools. We have three different groups for our Bible Study and Prayer Service. Mrs. Burton is in charge of the Junior group; Brother George Grieve in charge of the Young People; and Rev. Burton leader for the Adult group.

We have all the Auxiliary organizations of the church —W. M. S., Laymen, Jr. and Sr. S. M. M., Jr. and Sr. Brotherhood—all working very hard to make their work and lives count for the Lord. We have a newly elected Youth Board of which Brother Dwight Bishard is the Chairman. We are looking forward to the time when the Lord will provide us with someone who is capable of being our Youth Director. We ask an interest in your prayers in this behalf.

Four were baptized and added to the church following our Pre-Easter services. Two more were added at baptismal services this fall, and one more this past Sunday (Jan. 22) making seven for the year and sixty since Rev. Burton came. We have several others who are prospective members and for whom we are earnestly praying.

Death entered our midst, taking one of our members, a few have moved to other communities, but taking all into consideration we feel we are progressing very well and that the Lord is blessing us more and more each day.

We are looking forward to a full year with the Lord's work. Dr. Joseph Shultz is to be with us in March for the Sunday School workshop, and Rev. J. Milton Bowman, of Falls City, Nebr. for an Evangelistic meeting following Easter.

We, here at Mulvane were richly blessed the first part of October in being host to the Mid-West District Conference. These are always mountain top experiences wherever they may be held, but to have them at your home church where so many more of your own group can attend these services, the blessings are even greater. I'm sure I speak for all of our members when I say I want to take this opportunity of thanking all who made this conference the great experience that it was—those who came from our General Conference Organizations and those who came from the individual churches of the district. You all helped make it the success it was. May God richly bless each and everyone.

Mrs. Olen C. Davis, Corr. Sec'y.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

The past two Sundays, Mr. Hamel baptized 22 people and received 3 by letter.

The High School Young People's Class, under the direction of A. R. Thompson (formerly Professor of Music at Ashland College) has acquired the kitchen which is the last available space in our church. This past month the class has grown by leaps and bounds by reason of the unique way they are using the kitchen. They now have a coffee-doughnut hour along with their Sunday School lesson, which have proven very successful.

Miss Lillie Garwood, Secretary to the Pastor.

BENEVOLENT DAY OFFERING

FEBRUARY 19, 1956

Give Liberally for a worthy cause!

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

HYPOCRITES

He refused to be a Christian,
  And had no use for the church.
He said nearly all who belonged
  Were hypocrites—and nothing more.
It is true—there are such
  Who belong to the church,
But they can find no better place
  Than this in which to spend their time.
Here they will hear God's Word,
  And maybe by and by,
It will work the change desired.
  Again, did not Christ say that
He alone should be lifted up?
  Look then unto the Saviour,
And the cross on which He died,
  And not on His sinful followers,
Who straggle at His side.

—Clifford J. Boren.

OFTENTIMES the person who condemns others for their faults, fails to see his own (Rom. 14:12). The Devil wants us to see the faults of others; the Holy Spirit wants us to see our own faults (Matt. 7:1-5). We shall not have to answer for the sins of the hypocrites in the judgment but for our own (Rom. 14:10-12). The Judge of all men saw two classes in the church—the self-righteous and critical, and those who turned in sincere penitence to Christ for salvation (Luke 18:10-14). Though hypocrites may be in the church on earth, they will not be in Heaven (Matt. 23:33). To hide behind a hypocrite is not to justify but to condemn one's self (Luke 15:16).

The Pharisees were the spectacular hypocrites of Jesus' day. Many are the ways to play the hypocrite today. In either case Matthew 23 removes all shams and deceptions. Let us see through the eyes of Jesus:—

The hypocrite may be a great talker (v. 3), great in public prayer (v. 14), a great proselyter (v. 15), great in tithing (v. 23), very exacting and particular (v. 24), be very careful about outward cleanliness (v. 25), and very careful about his outward appearance (v. 27). Let all who are critical of the Pharisee see that they measure up to all of his good points! His good points are commendable if he had only had the right attitude. Let us search our own hearts as we follow this study!

Though the Pharisee was a great talker, he did not practice what he preached (v. 3). What he did he did to be seen of men (v. 5). He loved honor and exaltation (v. 7). He shuts up the Kingdom to those who stumble over him (v. 13). He devoured widow's houses and tried to cover the sin by making long prayers (v. 14). The proselytes he made he coached for Hell (v. 15). He "went to seed" on small matters and ignored weighty matters (v. 23). He claimed not to be guilty of extortion "as other men are" (Luke 18:11), but was "full of extortion" (v. 25). He was great for exterior cleanliness (white-wash), but within he was foul (unwashed) (vs. 25, 27).

Hypocrisy is a terrible sin (Luke 12:1). Of it the Pharisees were very guilty (Matt. 15:7, 8). With it they dishonored their parents (Matt. 15:4-6). They maltreated their neighbors (Prov. 11:9; 23:7). Judas connived with them, and betrayed his Master with a kiss (Matt. 26:48-50). Beware of their leaven!

The Apostle Peter once erred with pretense (Gal. 2:13). Paul opposed him in this matter (Gal. 2:11). David would have nothing to do with dissemblers (Psalm 26:4). Let love be sincere (Rom. 12:9).

The hypocrite's hope shall perish (Job 8:13). His pretense will bring him "greater condemnation" (Matt. 23:14). His ultimate portion is Hell (Matt. 24:50, 51). In all his deception he has deceived himself and will be greatly surprised in the judgment (Isaiah 33:14). Let us have heavenly wisdom, which is "without hypocrisy" (James 3:17).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for February 19, 1956

JESUS DEMANDS A CHOICE

Lesson: Luke 19:1-10

HOW QUICK WE are to pass by those whom we do not consider to be of our own class distinction! Fortunately, Jesus Christ is not like that. As He came in contact with various classes of people, He stopped to help. In this manner the sinful woman of Samaria embraced salvation. Likewise was the proud Pharisee, Nicodemus, brought into right relationship with God.

Zacchaeus, the publican—a member of those cheating, conniving tax collectors—made a right choice for God because Christ was interested in his soul, and stopped to speak with him.

Any man brought face to face with the Son of God is immediately confronted with the necessity of making important decisions. What shall he now do? Shall he continue on in his sinful way along the path of destruction? Or, shall he change his direction in life and choose the Christ-Way? Such were the decisions which faced Zacchaeus when he met Jesus Christ. He chose to follow Christ.

If a man boldly and courageously decides to make the right decision, he is confronted with barriers that would hinder his decision. Zacchaeus faced these barriers. What are they?

"He was rich." A man must decide what he is going to do with his possessions. He hears the admonition of Christ: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). Now he must decide what he will do.

Thank God the problem of possessions did not long trouble Zacchaeus, for we hear him say to the Master: "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor." Would to God all men had the courage to make the right decision with regards to that which they possess!

There was still another barrier aside from his possessions. There was his past. It was nothing of which he could be proud! On the contrary, he had been guilty of lying, cheating, and robbing. If he was truly repentant of his past sins, he must be willing to "bring forth therefore fruit worthy of repentance" (A.S.V. Matt. 3:8). Would he be willing to make proper restitution for the wrong he had done?

How gratifying to hear him say to Jesus: "If I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him four-fold."

Following this testimony it is no wonder Christ could say to the new Zacchaeus: "This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham." Who are the children of Abraham? The children of Faith, for Paul writing to the Galatians says: "Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham" (3:7).

Every man or woman, boy or girl who meets Jesus, is confronted with a choice. Zacchaeus made his choice—the right one. He chose to follow Christ.

"Choose I must, and soon must choose
Holiness or heaven lose;
While I choose what heaven hates,
Closed for me is heaven's gate."

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh. 24:15).

I BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST is the Son of God because He talked like incarnate deity; He thought like it, He planned like it, He died like it, rising from the dead in glorious vindication of it. I believe in Christ because He evidences the divinity of His person today by bringing new life to those who receive Him. What do we think of this Man Jesus? Well, if you doubt what He says about Himself, ask Him to verify it in your own experience, surrendering to the truth He has to say about you. —Robert Boyd Munger in **What Jesus Says** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

THE WHOLE TROUBLE with many Christians today is that they are only playing at being Christian. They have never really gone in for a holy, dynamic Christian life, because they are afraid to pay the price. I tremble in my own soul at the shock many will get when they face our Lord and discover that the beliefs they have cherished, the doctrines they have embraced, and the Bible they have said they believed, have landed them in hell because their beliefs have never become action, and the Bible has never become practice, and their lives have never been made holy. The law at the foot of the mount of judgment has to be fulfilled not by us, thank heaven, but in us by the Holy Spirit.—Alan Redpath, in **Victorious Christian Living** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

DO YOU KNOW GOD?

"And he said, Who art thou, Lord?" Acts 9:5.

MEN EXPERIENCE CONVERSION in different ways. That is they experience a different sensation in the process. To men like Paul, conversion came like a snap shot, so suddenly did it occur. And if this is true, then there are others come to the Creator by what might be likened to a time-exposure experience. And whether by one or the other type of experience, to both alike God becomes nearer, clearer, dearer as they grow in grace. Paul's sudden and unexpected meeting with his Master evicted a natural and spontaneous question, "Who art Thou, Lord?" Thou who hast come so unexpectedly and suddenly, and who doth by Thy coming shake my very soul?"

It would seem better to seek to realize the Lord's promise in Matthew 28:20, where He declares "Lo I am with you alway." I believe that it is God's wish that we should have Him for a constant friend and companion. And we may have that companionship.

We do well to ask ourselves the question, "What is the measure of my acquaintance with God? What is He like to me? Do I feel as close to him as I should? Would I miss my fellowship with Him if it should be broken?

Some have answered the question of our discussion in this manner: "He is to me as the glory of the sunset. I see Him in the sunset." Said another, "He is Love. He is all that is good and true and beautiful." Again another declares: "He is to me an inner grace. I feel His nearness. He is a Presence indescribable-undeniable-ineffable." "He is to me a Person. He is like Jesus," says still another; "He is my heavenly Father. I know He cares."

The Bible declares that God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." For the finest experience of God's fellowship, therefore, we must strive for a spiritual awareness of the presence of God by our side. So shall we be strengthened and kept in His will.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

BENEVOLENT OFFERING

(For Brethren's Home and Retired Ministers' Fund)

Make checks payable to L. V. King, Treasurer, and address Rev. L. V. King, 1033 E. Main St., Louisville, Ohio.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

THE YOUTH, BLESS 'EM!

I'M FOR THEM! Those delightful people somewhere between the ages of five and twenty-five, who either have that strenuous time called **adolescence** to endure, or have just rounded the bend on the other side, or are just now in its grips. That period when all the world seems out of focus—which I still believe it is—and the fads of the day take over completely the thinking of the youth so that he cannot see the sky for the stars; the time when it is easier to know the answers than to search for them; the pressures of physical and emotional temptations, and the foolish attempts of the former generation to help them "understand" themselves: these are just some of the characteristics of their lives.

Is it any wonder that all nations pick youth to fight their international battles? Who else can be so brave, so willing, so daring, so able to handle the situation? Remember, Mr. and Mrs. Doakes, they **do** win the battles! If they were left up to anyone else the battles would be lost. But don't forget, too, that if they are capable of handling international battles, they also are able to fight the battles of their souls. Give them uniforms and equipment and they will come out victors.

It has been reported that in World War II it cost about $1,600 to kill one enemy, while up to that time it cost $5—DID YOU HEAR ME? FIVE DOLLARS—to convert him. Now it costs far less than that to bring one of our own young people to the feet of the Lord. Think about it! You who measure your lives in terms of dollars-per-hour at the shop: would you, if you could, work two, or three, or four, or five hours to win one soul for eternity? Of course the cost would have to be much reduced when it comes to bringing our own to the Lord.

GIVE 'EM A HAND

If someone on the street on an icy, slippery day should fall within your reach, would you give him a hand? Of course you would! You're no heel. Who do I think I'm talking to anyway? Well, you were young once; and you didn't have it as tough in many ways as the youth of today have it, with its "golden opportunities" and all. But as they make their attempts at life and slip here and there do you give them a hand? Do you pray for them as they tread "icy" streets? Do you speak encouragingly to them? Do you offer any assistance to their attempts to tackle the battles of life, and their organized approach to life? In short, DO YOU HAVE (SHOW) ANY CONFIDENCE IN THEM?

THE BEST ON RECORD

Youth today have had no equals. They can sit down and figure their course through the next ten or fifteen years with cool heads and warm hearts; and most of them will even exceed their goals. They can follow you as you lecture them on matters which their parents didn't even know existed at their age, and after you finish they can add a couple more points to the outline of your sermon. Not only that; they can find the words you meant to use when you came to that mental "bridge" you wanted to cross.

In face of the bold, or should I say stark raving mad, world they can descend to their knees and with smoothness of style and graciousness of manner lift their petitions to the heavenly Father without a moment's hesitation, and do it as if to say, "Well, what would **you** have done?" This is what I see in the present generation of young people with whom we have to work.

Oh, true, very true, that some are "black sheep," and it seems an impossibility to reach them. But on the other hand, I have had some of the most frivolous, the most "impossible" young people come to me and thank me for a statement in a message, or apologize for certain actions. I am humbled by the large number of youth who are not stained by the products of the world, and remain clean even while rubbing elbows with the slimiest characters of the present system. They remind me of the three Hebrew children in the court of the Babylonians.

Even those who fall in the mud are to be given assistance instead of being trampled upon. What have we to offer them? It is almost a shame to mention the vastness of "education" offered on sex, the greatest problem of the world. If such a program could result in better personalities, it is high time it started to pay off. It has been given its chance. But instead it is a "come on" for youth which is printed in three letters on the covers of every issue of every secular magazine. Marriage is a state of legal experiment, to be tossed into the trash can if found unsatisfactory, and other experiments to follow. Under the pretense of "educating," the information is given out to make youth "wiser," burning more than ever with desire, hoping more than ever to escape consequences. The fall is even more disillusioning than it would have been without the information. The design of bathing suits for the beach, the arrangements of dance halls, and other forms of "recreation"—which, by the way, you are an "old fogie" (if my spelling is correct) if you don't think it's "nice," or at least see something "wrong with it"—all add to the problem of the modern youth. He has been born in its presence; he is taught it in schools; his parents either are divorced or give him lessons in the "art"; mother and dad make little or no attempt to do as the Hebrews did who loved their religion and instruct their children.

Yes, I insist that your youth are the best yet. They have the biggest job to do—both now and in the future—that any generation of youth ever has been challenged with, and they have less with which to accomplish it. They should be sore at us, but they are not. They are too kind. They simply take what we have to offer, adapt it to their needs, and use their imagination for the rest.

Let's encourage youth with our prayers, a kind word and kind deed. See how they will reward us!

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

GIVING THANKS

WHEN I WAS ASKED by our W. M. S. president to write an article for the "Evangelist" my first thought was, I can't do that. Next the thought came to me, why not write on giving thanks; you have so much for which to be thankful.

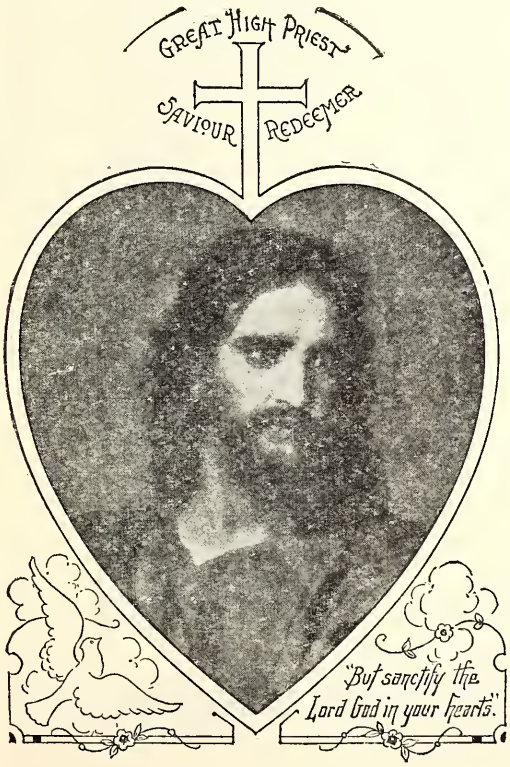
Every day in the year is a good time to give thanks. The majority of the people in the United States of America make a special effort for thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November. When we take the time to think of all our blessings, and really ponder over them, we are amazed at the many blessings that are ours.

My family's latest reason for thanksgiving is the safe arrival of our youngest son Gerald from overseas duty after traveling by train, boat, bus, plane and car a distance of approximately 5,000 miles, the night before the plane crash in the west that took 66 lives.

Like the psalmist of old, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."

If I have prompted even a few to be more thankful, I'll feel that this article has been very much worthwhile.

Mrs. Wm. H. Beattie,
Lanark, Ill.



INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

GOSHEN, INDIANA. A new Sunday School Class for post High School young people is being organized. The first session scheduled to be held on February 4th.

National Brethren Youth Director was guest speaker on January 29th, which was also designated as "Youth Sunday."

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Brother J. D. Hamel reports the receiving of 22 new members by baptism and 3 by letter recently.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. A "Pulpit Exchange Program" is being worked out among area churches, including Brethren Churches at Roann, College Corner, Huntington and North Manchester. The first schedule (for Sunday evening, February 12th) is as follows: Rev. Edwin Puterbaugh, of Huntington, at North Manchester; Rev. Thomas Shannon, of Roann, at Huntington; Rev. Bright Hanna, of College Corner, at Roann; and Rev. Bates, of North Manchester, at College Corner. It is planned to continue this plan about once every two months.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. The Senior and Junior Missionary Societies held their Mission Study Book Review at the Church on February 2nd.

Laid to Rest

McAFOOSE. Orris Orlando McAfoose, faithful member of the Brush Valley Brethren Church, of Adrian, Penna., died at home, Dec. 14, 1955. Had been active in church work since 1932. Survived by wife, three sons and three daughters. Funeral services held in the church by the pastor, assisted by Rev. Paul Naff. Interment in Brush Valley Brethren Church Cemetery.

David L. Rambsel, Pastor.

A TESTIMONY ABOUT the Brethren Bible Class Quarterly

"Enclosed is check for Quarterlies you sent . . . We like them fine so wish to place a standing order for 48 Brethren Bible Class Quarterlies to be sent each quarter . . . "

This testimony from a church (not Brethren) where a Brethren, attending occasionally, showed them a copy of our Quarterly.

This is just one of the testimonies which we are receiving right along about this Quarterly.

Are you Brethren making the best use of the Brethren Bible Class Quarterly in your Sunday School? If not, then study your local needs and increase your order for the new issue coming out soon.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchest r College
N. Manchester, Ind.

Bible Quizzes

FOR ALL TO PLAY

By John Bechtel—

"What Do You Know?" Bible Quizzes
Paper, 35¢

Bible Treasure Hunt
Paper, 35¢

"What's Your I. Q.?" Bible Quizzes
Paper, 35¢

By Mabel H. Hansen—

Scripture Quiz Book
Enjoyable Bible quizzes. Paper, 35¢

Guess Who Said It?
Bible Character quizzes that will have you guessing. Paper, 35¢

Bible Games
Easy-to-play games for any gathering. Paper, 35¢

Popular Bible Games for Everyone
Young and old alike will enjoy these. Paper, 35¢

Kid's Bible Quiz Book
Scripture quizzes especially for children. Paper, 35¢

Guess My Name
120 Bible character quiz studies. Paper, 35¢

More Guess My Name Bible Quizzes
Bible character quizzes for all ages. Paper, 35¢

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Instructive fun for young and old. Paper, 35¢

Bible Quiz Programs
8 complete and excellent programs. Paper, 35¢

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Detect the Errors Quiz Book
35 catchy and entertaining quizzes from the Bible. Paper, 35¢

Easy-to-Play Bible Games
Educational Bible games that are fun to play. Paper, 35¢

Kid's Program Book
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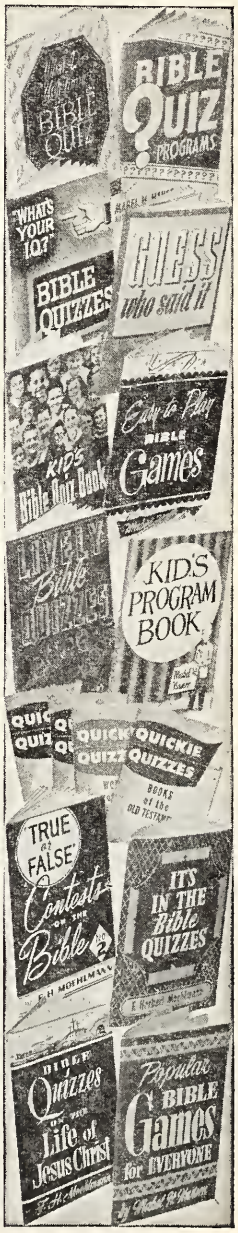

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Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. A "Carry-in" dinner was held following the morning service on February 5th.

Attendance on a recent Sunday was 63 as against 34 a year ago.

The frontis of the Sarasota bulletin now carries a line drawing of the proposed new church building which is to be erected on the lots purchased for that purpose on Shade Avenue.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin, Governor of the free state of Maryland is scheduled to speak in the St. James Church the evening of March 18th.

Brother Freeman Ankrum reports that on a recent icy Sunday they had 145 in Sunday School and practically a full house for preaching services.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. A "Sunday School Church Service" is scheduled for March 4th, at which time the Worship Service will be held first, at 9:30. The Young People's Class will serve as the Choir, a flannelgraph story will be told, a twenty minute sermon delivered, after which the classes will form for their studies.

The W. M. S. Book Review was held the evening of January 29th as an open service.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. A Church fellowship supper was held on February 12th. Following the meal a film, "Is Your Home Fun?" was shown and discussed. Future Fellowship evenings are to be scheduled.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. The W. M. S. was in charge of the evening worship service on February 5th.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Kenneth Howard, Ashland Ministerial Student, was special speaker in the Valley Church on January 29th.

A farewell fellowship for Hays Logan, member of the Valley Church, recently licensed to preach, and who has accepted the Gatewood, W. Va., pastorate, was held the evening of January 26th. Brother Logan brought the morning message in the Valley Church on February 5th.

New racks for the recently purchased hymn books have been placed on the pew backs; a project of the Valley Laymen.

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. Four new members were received recently. Two by baptism and two by letter.

Dr. James A. DeWeerd, Pastor of the Cadle Tabernacle, Indianapolis, Indiana, was the scheduled speaker the evening of February 12th in the West Alexandria Church.

(Continued on Page 11)

COMING EVENTS

CANTON, OHIO. Trinity Brethren. Revival Services—**March 4-11**—Rev. R. K. Higgins, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Keplinger, Pastor.

BRYAN, OHIO. Revival Services—**March 5-18**—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Evangelist; Rev. Alvin H. Grumbling, Pastor.

BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY
Northeastern Ohio District
at
Mansfield Brethren Church
490 Bowman Street, Mansfield, Ohio
Sunday, February 19th—2:00 P. M.

CONFERENCE DATES

Inquiries are coming in relative to District and General Conference dates for the summer of 1956.

Most Districts follow the pattern of a year ago, with the exception of the Ohio District, which has moved its conference from June to July.

INDIANA DISTRICT. June 11th through 14th, at Shipshewana Lake, Indiana.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT. June 22nd through 24th, at Oak Hill, W. Va.

OHIO DISTRICT. July 12th through 15th (Place to be announced).

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT. July 16th through 19th, at Third Brethren, Johnstown, Penna.

The General Conference of the Brethren Church meets in Ashland, Ohio, August 13th through 19th.

The Editor's Pulpit

Reasons Why

SECOND IN A SERIES

* * *

SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, we called attention to the fact that liquor consumption reached an all-time high during the Christmas holiday season. (**Brethren Evangelist**, Jan. 21, 1956). At that time, we promised you that we would soon list, what we feel, are the reasons for this tremendous, general upsurge in liquor consumption in our land.

When a person takes a drink of any alcoholic beverage, IN ANY FORM OR AMOUNT, he is endeavoring to satiate one or more of the three basic human drives: 1. Gratification of fleshly desires; 2. To be important and powerful; and 3. To be socially acceptable. All of these can represent dissipation of bodily reserves—a defiling of the body—a life that glorifies self instead of God. All of which the Christian is warned against.

There are **TWO GENERAL CAUSES** for our high liquor consumption. First, the effort of distillers, wholesalers and retailers to sell the stuff. **Second**, the potential and actual customer's lack of firm conviction against its use. The "sellers" appeal to every conceivable weakness of the "buyer" in order to create desire. The habit, once formed, creates additional desire, until you find that people will sacrifice every decent and rightful thing to satisfy their craving for drink. Two men died, recently, in a drinking spree because, it is believed, they drank the anti-freeze solution drained from the radiator of a farm tractor.

In view of the terrible cost and effects of direct and accompanying ills caused by our high drinking rate, we feel led to list for you what we feel are the main causes. We urge you to take each one, and thoughtfully think about it and then take a definite resolve as an individual and as a church to do something positive about it.

* * *

1. AN EVER INCREASING USE OF DRINKING IN TELEVISION DRAMA PROGRAMS. It seems that many times, the story writer and the actors makes extra special efforts to portray the use of drinks. So much so that we suspect at times that the writer and producer of the plays are under special obligation to the liquor interests. In other words, we have seen many fine television plays which could have been just as effective and complete without the drinking scenes,

The most sinister effect from television drinking scenes, though, is the way in which it is done. At no time, is the question of whether it is right or wrong to drink ever considered. Drinking is assumed to be right and proper. To children viewing such a screening, drinking appears to be the thing to do.

WHAT TO DO. Be concerned. Do not permit children or young people to view programs where there is the possibility of promiscuous drinking scenes, without proper adult supervision being present. When your children are viewing programs that do include drinking scenes, at that time, point out the evil in it, explaining how the drinking could have been left out. Write to the sponsor and object to his sponsoring of programs where drinking is encouraged.

(Our suggestions on what to do, may seem radical to some, but then, it's your young people involved, and as parents, their welfare should be your personal interest. No one else is going to protect them from this potential curse in their lives.)

* * *

2. UNSCRUPULOUS SPOTTING OF BEER ADS ON TELEVISION. Have you ever been watching your television and enjoying a program, only to have a station break, and to have the serenity of your living room shattered with a high powered beer ad? There is no hour of the day which is free from this intrustion. There is no assurance that the next station break won't tell you, and your neighbors, that you'd better go out and get a case of ..... beer, or you'll be dead by morning. We feel if beer advertising MUST be on television, it should be restricted to hours when the American families are not usually gathered around their sets. But then, the liquor business has never been known for scruples when potential customers are around.

WHAT TO DO. The so-called "Television code of good practice" when obeyed, allows a station two commercials during a station break. That is why you usually find a soap commercial and a bread commercial, for instance, with possibly a note about a coming TV program, as a usual diet between programs. When one of these spot announcements is a beer ad, take note of the accompanying product also advertised. Write that sponsor and tell him you object to his ad being run along side a beer ad. Don't forget the power of the printed (written) page. Point out the evils of beer drinking to your children as

(Continued on Page 10)

Favorite Sermons by Brethren Pastors

Rev. Frank W. Garber

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

THIS IS ABOUT the most important question that a man can ask. On its answer depends, not only our happiness in this world, but our happiness throughout eternity.

We might ask, "From what do we want to be saved?" The answer is, "Saved from sin." Then again we may ask, "What sin?" The Scripture tells us that "Sin is the transgression of the law." (I John 3:4). I take that to mean the transgression of GOD'S LAW.

Folks have asked the question, "Why did God create sin?" We answer, "God did not create sin." Sin, like darkness, is the absence of something. Darkness is the absence of light—likewise, sin is the absence of righteousness. We read in the story of creation that the earth was without form and void, and that darkness covered the face of the deep, so darkness, "like sin" was from the beginning. God gave man righteousness to overcome sin.

Another example is, God did not create hate; its opposite is love, and the scriptures tell us that "God is love." Further, by way of example, is life, its opposite being death. God breathed into the nostrils of Adam the breath of life, and man became a living soul. He did not create death, it is just simply the absence of life. Just so is sin the absence of righteousness.

We can commit sin without doing anything, just neglect the things we should do. God's Word says, (Heb. 2:3) "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" Doing nothing about it can become sin.

So we have determined that if we want to be saved we must do something about it. If we want to do right, we must act. We can truly be lost without any effort, through the sin of omission. Of the two roads marked out for us, one is the broad road to destruction. The gate is wide, and broad is the road. We can drift along on that roadway without effort—plenty of room—just go along with the crowd.

But how about the other road? Matt. 7:14 says, "Because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." We have to find this road, and we have to stay on it, for Rev. 3:5 tells us that "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name, out of the book of life." We must decide to be overcomers of sin if we expect to be saved."

The question then remains, "What must I do to be saved?"

To begin with, there are two stages of our salvation. We are not in heaven when our sins are forgiven, and our past sins pardoned—but we are on the right road, As such, we dare not take a short cut lest we get off the road and become lost. Some times we have a long way to go before we realize eternal salvation. Being saved now, and being saved in eternity are two different things. In one sense, we are on probation—on our good behaviour. For example—a man is found struggling in the water. There is no way that he can save himself. A boat comes along and takes him in, and he is saved for the time, but he is

not on land yet. The captain tells him that he must stay on the boat until he lands—if he deliberately jumps over-board, he will surely be lost. So it is with us; Mark 13:13 says, "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

However, when we ask, "What must I do to be saved?" we usually are thinking about salvation in this life, and also in the life to come. This was a common question asked of Jesus, by persons who realized that they needed salvation. Sometimes it is worded in a different way, such as when the rich young ruler came to Jesus and asked, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Luke 18:18). Of course, he had in mind the same thing that the Philippian jailor was thinking about in the 16th chapter of Acts when he said, "What must I do to be saved?" The answer was different in some ways. The rich ruler believed that Jesus was what He said He was (so we see that he had faith) and he believed. He had lived up to the Jewish law, therefore he had repented of his sins, and had rendered sacrifice for them. Yet he lacked one of the first conditions of salvation—he had not loved his neighbor as himself. All around him were poor folk who needed help; he was indifferent to their need which is proof that he was not fully resigned to the will of God—for God is love.

There are some fundamental things which we must do to be saved. In the first place one must hear about salvation before he can become interested about it, so the first thing we must do is to hear. On the day of Pentecost, the Jews were gathered together when the Holy Ghost fell upon the disciples. Peter, standing up, said, "Hearken to my words." That is the first thing a soul must do to be saved—hearken to the words of God. Then, when he has given his attention, he must believe what the Word of God says about being saved.

In the case of the multitude that was saved on the day of Pentecost, after they had been pricked in their hearts and had asked, "Men and brethren what shall we do?" Peter answered them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Then it says, "They that gladly received his word were baptized. And the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." So we see that those Jews were interested enough

to listen to the Word, and when they heard, they believed.

Then, after hearing, the next thing was repentance, which is just as important as to hear, for without repentance, we cannot be saved. What was the message that John the Baptist brought to the Jews when he began to preach? It was REPENTANCE — REPENTANCE — REPENTANCE. "Behold the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world" was the burden of his sermons to all people everywhere. Then they were baptized for the remission of sins. One never gets to the place in his life that he does not need repentance. Just so long as we make mistakes (and that is as long as we live) we need to be sorry for sin, and that is what is meant by repentance. I cannot find a single place where an unrepentant sinner was saved.

I think it would be well for us to think for a short time about the prodigal son. To understand this parable which Jesus told, it would be well for us to understand who the persons He speaks of represent. Jesus said a man had two sons. The only reasonable way to interpret this is that the father represents God, our heavenly Father. The son represents a child of God, for he could not exactly represent one who had never been born again, else he would not be a son of God. In my opinion, this son represents a backslider.

We know that he was a rightful heir to his father's estate, as his father did not protest his claim when he asked for his inheritance. He wandered away in "trespasses and sin," but the story

says that he remembered about his father's house, and that he was miserable feeding swine. Let us notice what he was doing—feeding swine (worldly, despised, filthy) and it says that "he came to himself." Then he began to repent of his past. That was the first step in his being reinstated in his father's favor. He then had to make up his mind to start back home. These steps must be taken by everyone, whether a backslider or a lost sinner, before he can be made alive. As to the status while he was away, the father said of his erring son, "For this my son was dead, and is alive again." (Luke 15:24). He who was lost in trespasses and sin, has now been restored by the grace of his father. He had been found, and again installed in his father's family.

Another case of a restored backslider is the parable of the lost sheep. We have here the lost restored, but he must stay in the fold if he expects the protection of the shepherd; this he can do if he follows the narrow path Jesus speaks of.

I think we should understand just how much the things we do have to do with our salvation. In Ephesians 2:8, we read, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." The things we do cannot alone save us, but there are certain things that we must do before the grace of God takes over. We must obey certain commands of God before He will extend His marvelous grace. After we have done all that we can to be saved, God's grace is still necessary. This is brought out very vividly in the raising of Lazarus. Remember, Jesus said, "Take ye away the stone," for He knew they were able to do that, then He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." The people were not able to accomplish this, so He did that for them. Then Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go," for He knew that they could do this.

Then we have another class of believers of which Jesus spoke in Matt. 7:21, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say unto me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Evidently these people trusted in their works alone to save them. God seemed to let them do good works, but they received no reward; evidently because they did not give God the glory.

WHAT THEN, MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

First: We must hear the story of redemption; we must be interested in our soul's salvation.

Second: We must see in this plan that we are sinners, and be humble, acknowledge our sins, and be sorry for them.

Third: We must believe in God's promises of redemption through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ; we must confess Him before men, not just simply in a public service, but in our daily way of living.

Fourth: We must take up our cross and follow Him, for if we expect to be where Jesus is, we must follow the road that He took to heaven—namely, doing the will of His Father who is in heaven, for, I repeat His words, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into heaven: but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

A blesed thought in regard to this road to glory is found in the words of Jesus, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." It is easy if we really love Him enough to serve Him.

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

(The above sermon was preached from the pulpit of the Brethren Church, 2600 E. 12th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming, by Frank W. Garber on the evening of January 30, 1955.)

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

BENEVOLENT OFFERING

(For Brethren's Home and Retired Ministers' Fund)

Make checks payable to L. V. King, Treasurer, and address Rev. L. V. King, 1033 E. Main St., Louisville, Ohio.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

DEVELOPMENTS AT LOST CREEK

Progress on the new parsonage at Lost Creek has been reported from time to time through this page. Other improvements have also been made recently at the Riverside Christian Training School: A new furnace was installed in the girls' dormitory, and other long-needed repairs were made. We are happy that such help is being given this fine work; but, as you are aware, such improvements do cost money.

Since July 1, of this fiscal year, $11,097.82 has been spent on building, repairs, improvements and general maintenance; whereas, less than half this amount has been received thus far to cover these bills. We are eager that the work shall go forward and continue to receive mission Board support, but we dare not use all of our home mission funds for this work. There are twelve other mission pastors dependent on mission funds—some rather largely—for their living; besides, we want to build new churches in many needy areas.

We do not want to curtail the Lost Creek work; neither do we want to fail our mission pastors. Many churches and individuals have expressed a keen interest in the Lost Creek program. Let's make that interest real by giving, then giving more and MORE.

FROM BUENOS AIRES, JANE BYLER WRITES—

January 26, 1956

Dear Brother Clayton:

Rob has been in camp in Cordoba since the 13th of the month. Before he left, he went to Colon, Rosario and Villa Constitucion. There are quite a few matters to be cared for in the different churches and he will probably report on those when he writes, after his return.

After a week in the hospital, David was able to come home; and he is now beginning to gain back some of the weight he had lost. He got along very well through it all, but, of course, we had to cancel all our vacation plans; now we don't see much chance of getting out of the city any more this summer.

Rob called me from Cordoba Sunday to see how things were here and said there are more than 60 enrolled. He was very happy with the spirit and especially pleased to have the help of Frederich Huegal (author of **Bone of His Bone, Calvary's Wondrous Cross,** and others). He is a missionary of the Disciples' group who has spent the last 35 years or so in Mexico. He visited Argentina for a series of conferences in 1951 and was so well received that he is now back to be here until June. We were most fortunate to have made his acquaintance then. When he arrived this time and his schedule called for two weeks in Cordoba, he offered immediately to give some day-time classes in our camp. He has a wonderful message and is a real spiritual help to those who recognize their need for a closer walk with the Lord.

Rob will be back about a week and then with the family we will go to the Mennonite Family Camp in Bragado. Rob and I each have a class and Reverend Huegal is also on the program there. That will be about a week.

The newly-purchased property

Just before Christmas, Rob was able to get two rooms painted in the old house on the recently-purchased property, and we had our first meeting there in the front room on December 18. The house is old and was much in need of cleaning and repair work, but those two rooms are serving for our meetings and for Rob's study temporarily, until final plans can get under way. Another room is occupied by Don Juan Iztueta, who is looking after the place and substituting in the meetings during Rob's absence.

Much of the rubbish is getting cleared away, and all are convinced that the old place was really a buy. Although it will take a good bit of remodeling, it looks as though most of the building will be usable, and for this we are very happy, as it will cut costs quite a bit and give us a substantial place. It has basement and an attic, which may even prove usable.

For the children's Christmas program and party (for children and their mothers), we had 41 present, and then the young people had about 25 for their Christmas meeting a few days later. Several times the room had been full and people were in the hall. But at least we have much better ventilation and it is a little bigger than our living room was.

It was a real blessing to be able to have the meetings there during David's illness, for I never would have gotten ready for them at home. Since the property is just around the block from where we now live, Rob has been able to spend a good bit of his time there. There is a large plot of ground in the back with a garden, an old workshop, and a chicken yard. On Rob's last trip he bought a dozen young chickens. We've had tomatoes and corn and grape jam from the grape arbor last week.

All this is what we call the "yappa"—the extra that is thrown in or the "baker's dozen." We've all been remarking that God's "yappa" is always big. In the attic there was quite a lot of old, but very good, furniture—wardrobes, cupboards, shelves, mirrors, and many odds and ends. Already a number of things have been painted up and put into use. There was even a good bed and box spring mattress for Don Juan's room. The verse—"unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or THINK. . ." keeps coming to mind. The land alone is worth the price, and the location is one of the very best in Nunez. We are humbled and we are exceedingly grateful. Thank you all for your prayers. The work ahead will be big, but He is able.

Sincerely yours in Him,
Jane Byler.

Cheswick, Penna., Brethren Group Holds Initial Meeting

New group under the sponsorship of the Pennsylvania District Mission Board and the District Board of Evangelists

THE PENNSYLVANIA BOARD of Evangelists and the District Mission Board, have been surveying the Cheswick, Pennsylvania area, with the possibility of starting a new Brethren church as their objective. In January, 1956, Rev. N. V. Leatherman, Wayne Heights, Penna., Rev. Horace Huse, Meyersdale, Penna., Rev. W. B. Brant, Vinco, Penna., and Rev. Ralph Mills, Pittsburgh, Penna., visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McGeary, 1321 Linden Street, Cheswick, Penna. As a result of this meeting, Rev. Brant and Rev. Mills were instructed to guide future efforts in the area.

On Thursday evening, January 25, 1956, a group of thirteen Brethren and friends gathered in the home of Mr. and Mrs. McGeary for the purpose of prayer-study and to discuss the possibility of starting a Brethren church in the community. Rev. Mills opened the meeting with prayer which was followed by a hymn, led by Mr. Jacob Mackall, member of the Vinco, Penna. church. Rev. Mills led the prayer circle and then introduced Rev. Brant who led the Bible study which was taken from Philemon. After Bible study Rev. Brant gave the closing prayer.

A short business meeting was held. It was decided that the future meetings would take place once each month. Mr. J. C. Simmermon made the motion that the last Friday of each month be set aside as our meeting date. Mr. William Kline seconded the motion. Therefore, the next meeting will be held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. McGeary, Friday, February 24, 1956, at eight o'clock. A motion was made by Mrs. Melba Simmermon that Mrs. Martha McGeary be nominated for Secretary-Treasurer of the group. It was seconded and unanimously agreed upon that Mrs. McGeary be made Secretary-Treasurer. A nice offering was taken at this time. Rev. Brant closed the business meeting with a prayer. A short social time was enjoyed by all before returning to their respective homes. The following persons attended the first meeting:

Rev. Ralph Mills, Pittsburgh, Penna.
Rev. W. B. Brant, Vinco, Penna.
Mr. Jacob Mackall, Vinco, Penna.
Mr. Clyde Garland, Pittsburgh, Penna.
Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Simmermon, Arnold, Penna.
Mr. and Mrs. W. Kline, Cheswick, Penna.
Mrs. John Beerworth, Springdale, Penna.
Mrs. William Anderson, Cheswick, Penna.
Martha McGeary, Cheswick, Penna.
Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McGeary, Cheswick, Penna.

Glenn E. McGeary, son of Mr. and Mrs. McGeary, is a pre-seminary student at Ashland College. Prayers of the many readers of the Evangelist will be greatly appreciated for the success of this newly organized group.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Martha H. McGeary, Secy.-Treas.

(There is a fine group of Brethren in the Cheswick area. The Pennsylvania Brethren, through the District Mission Board and Board of Evangelists is sponsoring the establishing of a new Brethren work in the area. Cheswick is located northeast of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.—W. S. B.)

FEBRUARY IS BENEVOLENT OFFERING MONTH

Give Liberally for a worthy cause!

What's Doing in the Churches

CARLETON, NEBRASKA

After sixteen months at Carleton we feel that ample time and progress call for a second report to our Brethren throughout the denomination.

As many of you know and as our first report last year stated that we came here the latter part of September in 1954. We were very happy to be in the service of the Lord and were quite sure the Lord had led us to this field. At the same time we were somewhat shaky; I, as the pastor, had had very little education (we had taken the church only until we could see our way back to school) and no experience of this kind before. The experience brought us nearer to the Lord and since, we have come to realize our need of relying upon Him, and as time goes by we feel He is revealing to us the need of more education. We feel more helpless in ourself, yet, He seems to be always opening the way and lightening the burden.

When we first came here the Sunday morning service was the only service in which we conducted for a month or so. Since our arrival we have reorganized the Brethren Youth Crusaders, started a Signal Lights group, hold Thursday evening prayer meeetings and Bible study; also Sunday School Board meetings and started Sunday night services. We are one of the very, very few churches that have evening services in the entire county.

When we took our first look at the situation here we doubted very much if there could be many unite with the church for at least a couple of years. Many of the young people had just recently joined under the fine work of the Shannons. In case some of you don't know, the population here is a little different than it is back east. This little town is populated with approximately 250 people. In town we have three churches and one just a short distance away in the country. The people as a whole are church going people and since people do not come and go like they do in the east the chance of making your church grow in number is very slim. Putting it all into one statement there just did not seem to be anyone that we might reach. But we were wrong. The work of Rev. William Thomas in his revival here gave us the first encouragement. Through his work we were all strengthened and two souls were saved and added to the church; also two rededications. The statistics to date are as follows: eight have been baptized but never joined the church (one family of five wished to attend and do but never joined the church—another family of three did the same). We hope that some or all will join us later. We have also had five to be baptized and join the church. One other boy accepted Christ in our services but has not yet been baptized or joined the church. We would like you to please notice that out of the fourteen first-time decisions eight were children under the age of twelve. Each Sunday we include in our worship hour an object lesson, flannelgraph lesson or a Bible story for the children and we feel this has possibly been the result of some of the decisions.

We also feel happy to have part in seeing five find Christ at camp and 23 rededicate their lives during our vesper services. At Falls City this last spring we held a revival as District Evangelist and was happy to see one girl find Christ and three unite with the church.

But let us not fill our balloon full of air lest someone deflates it. We have our woes. Upon our arrival here we found that many had been completely wiped out with a terrible hail storm. The Ambassador Quartet could vouch for its destruction—they saw it. One of our members had to scoop the hail out of his kitchen with a scoop shovel. This made things pretty tough going financially for the Brethren here at Carleton. This year the drouth has been grievous. The people in the east were talking of drouth when we were at General Conference but they do not know what a drouth is until they see what happened here. Except for the farmers that have irrigation, the crops in the fields were almost unrecognizable. A second year with many farmers a complete failure! Again this winter the moisture has been so little that even with the usual spring rains a good crop is doubtful due to lack of subsoil moisture. Brethren we need your prayers. It is a serious thing here.

Let us forget about the crops and look at another gloomy picture. We have just lost our high school. This is another thing that isn't given much thought elsewhere. Did you ever stop to think what the closing of a school means? Where the child's interest is is where the parent's interest is. Do people want to move into a town with no school? No! Do people want to move out of town with no school? Yes; they do and they are. Again Brethren we need your prayers.

We rejoice that where there is tribulation Satan is hinted, and where he hangs around there is something important going on. For that we feel that the Lord is going to undertake. Yes, we have troubles, but we also have Him. Pray for us and the Brethren here (for there are some faithful ones here) that this church might carry on His work.

Claude Stogsdill, Pastor.

REVIVAL MEETING AT NORTH MANCHESTER

On February 5th, the North Manchester Brethren Church closed its two-week revival and evangelistic meeting—and what a glorious two weeks it was! Many of the brethren here had been looking forward to this meeting for several months, and many others had been working toward its success for several months also. The Board of Deacons of the church had planned and carried out an intensive and extensive visitation campaign in connection with this series of services—and their efforts were not in vain; as was also true concerning their efforts in publicizing the meeting. Despite two snowfalls of five and three inches, the attendances were quite encouraging—and especially encouraging was the regularity and faithfulness with which a good many of these folks

attended. Each evening found a number of folks with us from other churches in the city, and their comments of appreciation for the services were most rewarding. We were also well blessed with delegations from other Brethren churches in the area including the Roann Church, the Warsaw Church, and the Dutchtown Church, and the College Corner Church—each with their ministers.

This was strictly a "local-talent" meeting. The song services were led by our good brother "Bud" Hunter, the chairman of our Board of Deacons. When, about the middle of the second week, it was necessary for "Bud" to go out of the state for a week or ten days, another of our capable deacons, Brother Frank Robert Conrad, took up the reins. The congregational singing was of the highest caliber, and added much to the spirit of the services. At no time did the services suffer for lack of special music! Each evening different members of our youth organizations brought us numbers on various instruments—accordion, piano, baritone horn, trombone, clarinet, violin, and others. Also each evening we had at least one special vocal number, and on most evenings two and sometimes three such numbers. The writer, the pastor of the church, brought the messages each evening.

Our purpose in holding this two week meeting was twofold: First to strive to win the unsaved to the Lord Jesus Christ; and secondly, to "revive" the present members of the congregation.

This writer has believed and has preached for some time that if we could get all of the church people now in our congregations revived it wouldn't be necessary to have special evangelistic periods—for the Christian people would be active in soul-winning every day of the year. As we look back over the results of the two weeks we feel that the Lord certainly gave us some degree of success in both of our endeavors. Seven folks came forward to make the good confession for the first time—seven were baptised on the closing day of the services. Two others were received into the church by letter—both having previously been baptised by trine immersion. Nine adults, several of them being Sunday School teachers, also came forward when the invitation was extended, to rededicate and reconsecrate their lives to the Lord Jesus. This closing service of dedication made a deep impression upon many of those gathered at the church that night. Other results, which cannot be counted, were also forthcoming as an outgrowth of these services. Many of the brethren told the pastor that they would never be the same after having witnessed and felt the working of the Holy Spirit during these two weeks.

We look for a real deepening of the spiritual lives of a number of the men and women here, and we know that the prayer life of many of them has been strengthened through the working of the Spirit. Our fervent prayer is that this enthusiasm and spiritual deepening might not quickly disappear, but rather that in the months and the years which are ahead that they might grow and might result in even greater ingatherings for the Kingdom of God. Brethren, toward this end we ask your united prayers.

Henry Bates—Pastor, Evangelist.

THE EDITOR'S PULPIT

REASONS WHY

(Continued from Page 3)

it is eulogized on your screen. Anticipate their coming, and turn down your set even changing to another channel during station breaks. (We realize this presents a problem when you are settled deeply in your easy chair. Children are quick to catch on, and a little instruction can make them willing servants for this little trick. Where tried, it works.)

We have limited our comment this week to two most important factors relating to our rising liquor consumption, which is a direct danger to your young people. We believe the Television is a major contributing cause because it brings the drinking evils, less moral teaching against them, right into the heart of your home. Every beer ad, every drinking scene on your Television screen is a direct challenge to parents.

It's from across the sea, but a recent news note from England says that Britains are drinking an average of 140 points of beer in 1955. This was three pints more per person than in 1954. The Brewer's Society, responsible for the announcement, "surmises that TV-watching increased imbibing at home."

The Devil is having pretty smooth sailing via electronics into your home. Every safe-guard of family unity, prayer, Bible Study, church attendance, and alcohol education must be used, and is well worth its cost.

(In the third in this series, we will deal with additional factors which we feel are adding to our already difficult problem.—W. S. B.)

This 'n' That

By the Editor

ABOUT RECEIVING YOUR EVANGELISTS

A few weeks ago we printed some comment on the delay in the delivery of Evangelists to many Indiana subscribers. We trust that the situation has improved for you good Indiana brethren. An interesting bit of comment comes from Brother C. Y. Gilmer, a former Indiana pastor, now at Manteca, California. Brother Gilmer says, "The Evangelist often arrives here on Monday, not later than Tuesday. That is much better than at Huntington."

If there was any place where this Editor thought there might be several extra days needed to deliver the paper, it would be the Pacific coast, but according to the comment, six days gets it from "here to there."

If anyone of you Indiana Brethren have taken the matter up with your post office, and have noted improved delivery, we would appreciate knowing about it. We're sure the Postal Department is as interested in finding the "bottleneck" as all of us are.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. A hand painted picture of Christ in Gethsemane has been placed in the vestibule of Hillcrest Brethren's new Educational Building in memory of Adam F. Hawker, by Mrs. Clara Hawker and family.

New, wall-to-wall carpet was recently placed in the dining room, living room, sun room, stairs and upstairs hall of the parsonage.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. The Missionary Film, "Barriers Broken" was shown the evening of January 29th.

Under the direction of Jerome Fleischer, of the American Association for Jewish Evangelism, a sound-color film, "Three Minutes to Twelve" was shown the evening of February 5th.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Brother Robert Keplinger reports the reception of two new members, by letter, recently.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Smithville Brethren was the scheduled host church for the Wayne County Christian Endeavor Banquet on February 13th.

The Smithville Brethren conducted a special service in the men's dorm at the Wayne County Home the afternoon of January 29th. Brother Robert Hoffman brought the message, and music was given by members of the Sisterhood, which group also attended the service.

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Brother William Fells, who has been recovering from a broken leg, has now been released from the Doctor's care. Brother Fells is able to perform his pastoral duties as well as ever, and he is appreciative of the many prayers which have been offered in his behalf.

Brother Fells informs the Editor that the contractors are finished with their work on the new class rooms, and that the rooms are soon to be put to use.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Baptismal services, followed by the service of laying on of hands and reception into church membership, were held on February 5th.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Rev. Russell Snyder, of Huntington, Indiana, was guest speaker in the Muncie church the evening of January 22nd.

AKRON, INDIANA. The film, "The Difference," was shown the evening of February 5th, as a part of the special emphasis on "Youth Sunday."

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Baptismal services were held the evening of February 12th.

The Goshen church was scheduled to be host to the Northern Indiana Youth Rally the evening of February 16th.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. A Special night for Sunday School workers, with the Church Board of Education as hosts, was held Wednesday evening, February 8th.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Brother H. Francis Berkshire notes the beginning of two new B. Y. C. groups on February 5th. Junior B. Y. C. for all those in 1st through 6th grades, and Intermediate B. Y. C. for 7th and 8th graders. These new groups, with the regular Sr. B. Y. C., now gives Lanark three youth groups meeting regularly on Sunday evenings.

The Senior Sisterhood presented the worship service the morning of February 12th.

Brother Berkshire notes that at the close of each month the record attendance for that month will be posted on the attendance board. Record for January was 207.

WATERLOO, IOWA. February 12th was observed as W. M. S. Day, with the Morning Worship under the Society's leadership. Mrs. Zatha Weems, of Cedar Falls, was the speaker.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. The improvement of a basement room in the parsonage for a Church recreation room, a project of the laymen, is nearing completion.

CARLETON, NEBRASKA. The Carleton Boy Scouts and their leaders attended services in the Carleton Brethren Church, in a body on Sunday, February 5th.

The Carleton Church was the scheduled meeting place for the annual World's Day of Prayer Service on February 17th.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING. A card to the Editor from Brother Frank W. Garber notes that he planned to enter DePaul Hospital, in Cheyenne, the latter part of January, for major surgery. At this writing, we have not heard how he is getting along, but we are urging the Brotherhood to remember Brother Garber in prayer. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

MANTECA, CALIF. Brother C. Y. Gilmer has announced a meeting of all Laymen of the Northern California District for the purpose of effecting a District Laymen's Organization. The meeting was scheduled for the Manteca Church the evening of February 17th, beginning with a Banquet at 6:30, followed with a program at 7:30. The Conference Committee is L. A. Schmeidt, John H. Frey, Steven Hill, and C. Y. Gilmer.

(We are sorry that the announcement of this very special meeting did not reach us in time to include in an earlier issue of the Evangelist; we are glad to give recognition in this way to this forward step by the California Brethren. Ed.)

SPECIAL. A note from Chap (1 Lt) E. J. Beekley, who is now stationed in Korea, will prove of interest to the Brotherhood.

Brother Beekley, who recently completed 32 months as Chaplain at Sampson Air Force Base, Geneva, N. Y., left January 6th for Korea, and plans to return to the States before Christmas.

Brother Beekley writes, "We have a fine base here and about 1000 men. I have a good choir and organist and choir director, and my service is broadcast every Sunday for the benefit of the base and local missionaries. I have choir rehearsal Thursday night, Bible Study Friday night, Sunday night service and morning devotions at 7:45 every morning, so I'm pretty busy, which is all right with me."

Brother Beekley's family is resident in Sarasota, Florida, where they are active in the work of our new Church in that city.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THAT BLESSED HOPE

We stood, grouped together and gazed upon high
As the meteorites sparkled and raced 'cross the sky—
And I thought of the marvelous creative power
Of the hand that upholds us hour by hour—
Then I thought how He gave up His glory on high,
To come down to this earth to suffer and die—
To victoriously rise from the grave, with all power
To ascend back to Heaven, where He waits for the hour
When He shall come again in the clouds of the sky,
And all His redeemed ones shall meet Him on high—
Then I thought how His followers asked Him while here,
When that time would come, when He should appear?
"No man knoweth," said He—"the day, nor the hour,
Not even the angels, only the Father" hath power
To reveal unto us, that day and that hour—
These thoughts filled my mind, as I still watched the sky
Where the meteorites blazed their glory on high—
And I thought—there must be rejoicing in Heaven to-
night,
Else—why this demonstration revealed to our sight?
Perhaps God has spoken the word to His Son
Saying—"Soon is the time, My will shall be done."
Perhaps He revealed the day and the hour,
When all things on earth shall submit to His power—
"The Bride is now ready"—the angels would sing,
Oh, how 'round the Throne the glad anthems would ring!
As the meteorites dashed through the realms of vast
space,
It seemed I could almost behold His dear face—
My lips formed a prayer, as I gazed once again,
"Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus—Amen."

—Mrs. Will C. Phinney.

THE PHENOMENAL DISPLAY of meteorites in the sky reminded the poetess of her belief in the second coming of Christ as based on His own personal testimony of His coming again (John 14:1-3; Matt. 16:27). She probably remembered the testimony of the Heavenly messengers whose predictions have never failed to come to pass (Acts 1:11). There is also the testimony given by every New Testament writer (1 Thess. 4:16; Heb. 9:28). And many of the Old Testament writers testified to the same (Dan. 7:13; Zech. 14). There are 1845 texts in the Bible upon this subject. Three hundred and eighteen of these are in the New Testament, which is an average of every 22nd verse. So we have an abundance of the Word of God as a basis of faith on the great subject of Christ's return (Rom. 10:17).

The poetess believes that Christ's second coming will be personal (Matt. 24:30; Mark 13:36; 1 Thess 4:16). It will be a bodily coming (Acts 1:11; Luke 24:50; John 14:3). It will be a visible coming (Luke 21:27; 1 John 3:2; Rev. 1:7). It will be sudden (Matt. 24:27; Luke 17:23, 24; 1 Thess. 4:16). It will be most unexpected (Matt. 24:27-39, 42-44). We may not understand all about the "how" of His coming, but we can be living daily in readiness for His blessed appearing (1 John 3:3).

The Lord is coming the second time to receive His Church (1 Thess. 4:16, 17; Heb. 9:28), to usher in a new age (Acts 3:20, 21; Matt. 25:31), to take His power and reign (Luke 1:32-33; 19:11-15), to establish His kingdom (Dan. 7:13; 2 Tim. 4:1; Rev. 11:15), to bring "peace on earth" (Psalm 72; Rev. 20, 21, 22). When Christ was here the first time He was the best Friend mankind ever had, which was only a token of what He will do the second time.

He is to come when not expected (Matt. 24:26), when Bible signs appear (Matt. 24:32-39). When the Church is completed (Acts 15:14-16), when Gentile Times are ended (Luke 21:24-27), when "as it was" days are here (Matt. 24:37-39).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for February 26, 1956

TEACHINGS ON STEWARDSHIP

Lesson: Luke 19:12-26

A STEWARD IS A MAN entrusted with responsibility. He, therefore, is under obligation to his master to fulfill his duties to the best of his ability. In this sense the Christian is God's steward. Into his hands has been placed the solemn responsibility and obligation to fulfill his task in life—the task which God has assigned him. This requires faithfulness, honesty, and unreserved obedience on the part of the steward.

In order to stress the necessity of being a good steward, Jesus gave the Parable of the Pounds. There was, however, another purpose for delivering this parable—"because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear" (Luke 19:11).

"He said, therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return." The nobleman is Christ Himself. He dwelt among men for three and a half years, manifesting a spotless life. He then made clear to His disciples that He must needs go away for a short time.

Notice that the emphasis of the parable is not upon His **going away**, but His **returning**. With all that is mentioned in God's Word about the Second Coming of Christ, is it not strange that so little is said about it in our churches today? Jesus said very emphatically: "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go . . . **I will come again**" (John 14:2-3). Very few people have the audacity to doubt His going—but, alas, how many there are who all too readily doubt His **coming again!**

Before leaving on his journey, the nobleman delivered a charge to his followers: "Occupy till I come." Williams

translates this: "Do business" till I come. Emphatic and clear is the command. There is no reason for **misunderstanding** nor **disobeying** his words. They were to be busy in his service!

At his return the nobleman's first task was to inquire into the conduct of his stewards. How had they performed?

They all appeared before him. The faithful were commended and rewarded. The lazy and indifferent were sorely reprimanded, and their unfaithfulness condemned.

The application of such a parable is obvious to all who would know. The Son of God has returned to heaven from whence He came. But He is coming again—SOON! When He returns He will require an accounting from all His stewards. The Scriptures plainly declare: "For we (Christians) must all appear before the judgment-bar of Christ, that each may get his pay for what he has done, whether it be good or bad" (Wms. II Cor. 5:10).

When that day shall come, and we His children are required to stand before our Saviour, what will we have to show for our service here upon earth?

"Must I go, and empty-handed,
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?
Not one day of service give Him,
Lay no trophy at His feet?

Must I go, and empty-handed?
Must I meet my Saviour so?
Not one soul with which to greet Him:
Must I empty-handed go?"

FRANKLIN BRUCE YODER

June 4, 1875—January 11, 1956

FRANKLIN BRUCE YODER died at the family home in Temple City, California (near Los Angeles) on January 11, 1956, at the age of 80 years, 7 months and 7 days. He was born June 4, 1875 at Wooster, Ohio. He was the son of Brother Eli Yoder, and a brother of the late Charles F. Yoder, veteran Brethren Missionary. Charles preceded him in death by 11 months. Brother Yoder leaves to mourn his departure, his wife, Grace Moomaw Yoder, two daughters, Mrs. Robert (Ruth) Moses, of Temple City, Mrs. H. Victor (Sara) Neher, of Pasadena, California, at the present in India with her husband doing research work in the field of cosmic rays; and a son Robert M. Yoder, presently of El Paso, Texas. There are nine grandchildren. Three brothers also survive, Blaine Yoder, Lincoln, Neb., Amos Yoder and Lester Yoder, of Falls City, Neb. Three sisters, Mrs. Jacob Warren, St. Joseph, Missouri, Mrs. Nelson Schock, Morrill, Kans., and Miss May Yoder, of Morrill, also survive.

Frank Yoder graduated from Ashland College in 1901. He was married to Grace Moomaw in 1903. He was ordained to the Eldership in the Brethren Church and served as pastor of our South Bend, Indiana Church. As the result of a severe typhoid fever attack, his health suffered very materially, and upon the advice of his physician, he gave up the active ministry, and took up farming. For a time he lectured on scientific agriculture at Purdue University, Indiana. He also supervised and operated experimental farms in Iowa for Wallace's Farmer Publishing Company. The well-known Henry A. Wallace, as a college boy, worked on the Yoder farm during his summer vacations.

In 1920 Frank moved with his family to California, primarily for the sake of his health. He retired from all active work in 1928. Until recently, he and his wife, his son Robert and wife, held their membership in the Manteca, California, Brethren Church. During my acquaintance with him, I found him a Christian of devotion, and loyalty to the Word of God, self-sacrificing and willing to serve in any capacity within his ability.

The immediate cause of Brother Yoder's death was Coronary Thrombosis. Frank was a member of the Brethren Beran Band of the Northern California Brethren Conference, and he, with Mrs. Yoder, were liberal supporters of the organization, and took active part in teaching and counselling in several camps.

He was laid away in beautiful Forest Lawn Cemetery after the funeral services in Temple City, conducted by the writer, assisted by Rev. N. W. Jennings, of Pasadena, California. "Good-bye, Frank 'till the morning comes."

J. Wesley Platt, 1230 E. Yosemite Ave.,
Manteca, California.

I OFTEN THINK of the little boy I saw sitting outside the walls of Versailles. He was holding a little sparrow with a broken wing. A kindly lady came along and she asked, "Sonny, would you like me to take this sparrow home and nurse it back to health? I promise I will bring it back to these gardens when it is healed and let it fly free again."

The little boy thought for a moment. Then he said, "If you don't mind, Madam, I will take care of the bird myself." He paused momentarily and added, "Because, you see, I understand this bird."

The woman could not quite get what that boy meant until he stood up. Then she saw his left leg was in a cast. Because he was crippled, he understood the suffering bird's problem.

The God whom I know became incarnate in Jesus Christ and came into the world to learn what problems I must face in life, so that He can match the strength I may need in order to face those problems triumphantly. That is why, when I walk with Him, I can have such confidence.—Reuben K. Youngdahl, in **The Secret of Greatness** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

THOUGHTS ON PLANNING

RECENTLY some things have been running through my mind about the way in which most churches handle the matter of planning for their youth. When we mention the word planning we sometimes wonder what the youth worker thinks about, what is his interpretation of the word, what are his ideas concerning good planning. It has been my experieince that any type of committee or board meets to select someone from that group who will have to take the burden of the work, make future contacts, bear the blame for mistakes, be responsible for all phases of carrying out of the "plans" that were made at the meeting. The chief idea in the mind of each is to escape as much responsibility as is possible by quickly nominating someone else to the "honorable office," then proceeding with the business of piling the work onto him.

A FALSE CONCEPTION

THIS IS NOT PLANNING! IT IS SCHEMING! Don't you be caught doing it. It is strange to me the way in which committees and boards feel the responsibility of "planning" a "service" for their youth or their church on a night when nothing else will interfere—thus taking away the only night for family life the poor members up to this moment have free!—and then proceed to set the next committee meeting on a random date and time that only a handful of members can possibly—or cheerfully—be present! Planning is not merely a matter of setting dates and times. The meeting usually ends with orders from the chairman to the secretary or some "selected" person to "carry out" the details. In this manner every member of the church or youth group dreads the time when he will be "elected" to any position of responsibility, and when he is he joins the rest in scheming his way free from as much responsibility as possible. Please tell me, How can we expect to have a moving, cheerful body of workers at this rate? People just don't respond well to the idea of being "the goat"—nor should they. Let us wise up on some of these things.

WHAT IS "CHRISTIAN SERVICE?"

Part of the difficulty lies in the fact that we have a false conception of the idea of service. To some people attending church so many times a week is "service" rendered to God; to others their service means being an officer in the church or Sunday School; some feel that they serve God by sitting on committees and boards. May we consider a brief clarification of those ideas, please? Does the Church exist for the Church, or to win souls and provide spiritual development through worship and Christian teaching? I believe you would agree with me that it is the latter. True, the teacher and the leader of certain phases of church and Sunday School work are rendering a service to God. But more specifically it is for the edification of those who attend. The "service" of the attendant is not rendered here; he only is receiving instruction and illumination for service that he will render during the time he is away from church. The service comes in all through the week; worship and edification come on Sundays.

Filling up the calendar is not necessarily doing service to God. It proves that someone is busy. But he may even be busy retreating from true service, that of meeting and bringing sinners to the Lord, helping the poor, visiting the aged and sick, etc. In my opinion the less the calendar is filled with activity, the greater is the opportunity to really offer true service to God.

USING WISDOM IN HOLDING MEETINGS

Now please don't misunderstand me. I know as well as the next person that it takes time to hold committee meetings. Someone is to sit on those committees. The thing that I am chafing about is this "having to" sort of committee meetings and attendance. It's all in the way we set up our organization; the way in which we seek to accomplish true service to God. You would think we are attempting to slip something over on our Heavenly Father by substitution. The Father's "business" is not just being busy. It has a point to it, a method and means of accomplishing an end. We get lost in the means and seldom reach the end.

I would suggest that we take care in the setting of committee meetings. It is a bad thing to hold a meeting after a wonderful worship service. Don't crowd out the thoughts and spirit of the service with cares and debates about lesser things. The new week is at hand, and the illumination of the day is needed for strength to face coming responsibilities. Better to hold a special meeting some other time than on the Lord's day, a day of rest. Recently, after putting in a week of work, three nights until after 10:30, I was expected to attend four services on Sunday and a committee meeting until 9:45 P. M. This after putting in a week of work with a religious organization! And if someone were to ask me, "Well, now where is your sense of responsibility?" I would reply by saying, "I've been using it all week, and like to lay it aside for worship and fellowship on the Lord's day!" This goes for many others I know, too. If others felt as I did they only wanted to get the meeting over with so they could relax and meditate on the things of the day. Certainly, I would not say we made any plans. I am not trying to point out any particular group. I only suggest that I have experienced what I know many of you have experienced.

This is the reason we aren't cheerful and eager to win souls to Christ! Even a committee meeting for making plans should be done in a relaxed manner. The members of the committee ought to be made to feel that they are fellowshiping as they make plans. Have meetings at suitable times, perhaps in someone's home; serve very light refreshments. Take care of details sufficiently so that no one will bear all of the burden. Try to take as much dreadfulness away from the next meeting as you can at this meeting. Keep the committee members cheerful and enthused and the special services and regular meetings (fellowship) will go under their own steam. When the members of your youth group catch the inspiration and cheerfulness, then others will want to join. NEVER MAKE CHRISTIANITY A RESPONSIBILITY! It is a privilege!

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

A MEDITATION ON SELF-INTROSPECTION

Or

AM I? and DO I?

AM I GOD'S BORN-AGAIN CHILD? And as such what should my behavior be? Am I truly putting "first things" first? Am I living each day, each hour, each minute, as they were my last? Our Saviour admonishes in Matthew 6:23: "But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness;" then giving the promise: "and all these things shall be added unto you."

AM I READY TO MEET MY GOD AND SAVIOUR, should He come right now? Am I walking humbly before God? Am I humble in spirit, or do I suffer with a bit of exalted ego, commonly termed "I think" trouble? Matthew 23:12 reads: "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

AM I LIVING A CONSECRATED, PURE, DEVOUT AND HOLY CHRISTIAN LIFE? Matthew 5:8 reads: "The pure in heart shall see God." Am I holy in conversation? I Peter 1:15 reads: "But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye in all manner of conversation—because it is written: be ye holy, for I am holy." Am I careful of my conversation? Phil. 1:27 reads: "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ." I Tim. 4:12 reads: "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of believers, in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

DO I JUDGE, GOSSIP, BREAK CONFIDENCES, overlooking my own faults and shortcomings? Matthew 7:1 reads: "Judge not, that ye be not judged." Remembering a rather grotesque caricature of a head with huge ears, bearing the caption, "Dump here." When listening to someone repeating tales or happenings about someone else, am I lending an ear to gossip? Only a six-letter word, but the heartbreak it can cause! Am I wearing the sign, "Dump Here?" Matthew 12:36 reads: "But I say to you that every idle word, which if men speak, they shall give account concerning this word in a day of trial" (O. G.).

DO I CRITICIZE? Which brings to mind this story as told by Dr. J. Timothy Stone: "A man went into a barber shop, and as the barber was cutting his hair, he began criticizing the taxidermist who stuffed an owl standing on a perch in the window. But while his crude merriment was at its height relative to the poor workmanship of the taxidermist, the owl jumped down from his perch." Yes; the owl was alive!

AM I PRAYING WITHOUT CEASING? In the spirit, and the understanding; believing and knowing that God hears and answers. John 15:7 reads: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

DO I WITNESS DAILY, in Jerusalem, Judea, Maryland, Iowa, or wherever I may be?

AM I A HINDRANCE, OR STUMBLING BLOCK to the unsaved; linking arms with Mr. World? 2 Cor. 6:17 reads: "Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

AM I FIRM IN THE FAITH "Once for all delivered unto the Saints," or am I being "tossed about by every wind of doctrine?" Can I say: "My heart is fixed?"

DO I LOVE MY NEIGHBOR AS MYSELF, am I considerate, forgiving, patient, kind, long-suffering, forbearing? If I am not, and do not, if my heart is not fixed and settled on Thee and with Thee, when Thou hast given to me the answers in Thy Word, then dear Saviour, forgive me when I pray. And for Jesus' sake, lead me.

TO LOVE, more truly as Thou dost love,
TO LIVE, humbly and trustfully, as Thou didst live;
TO LOOK upward, with my eyes fixed upon Thee,
THAT I MAY, neither stray nor fall;
TO PRAY, each day with increased Faith;
THAT ALWAYS, Thy will, never mine,
BE DONE, in and through me.
THIS IS my earnest prayer:
TO LOVE, LIVE, LOOK, PRAY,
MY JESUS, Saviour, Redeemer, Friend.

Mrs. Elizabeth G. McCartneysmith,
Cumberland, Maryland.

(This was written Sunday Feb. 6th, 1955, while a patient for four months in Memorial Hospital, Cumberland, Maryland).

MORE COMMENT ABOUT OUR QUARTERLIES

"Please send one dozen additional copies of the Bible Class Quarterly, and one-half dozen of the Youth Quarterly for the present quarter."

The above request came by telephone to the Editor one evening recently. This, from a Brethren Sunday School that already has a good sized order with us for our Brethren Quarterlies, yet one that recognized the growing needs for additional literature. Although the Quarter is half over, this Sunday School wanted the growing needs of their Sunday School met now, rather than to wait for the next quarter.

BY THE WAY. Have you analyzed and studied the present needs of your Sunday School for Brethren Sunday School Quarterlies? Each adult attendant should have their own personal copy of the Bible Class Quarterly. You should have extra copies for visitors and for potential growth. Each Youth, of the ages covered by the Youth Quarterly, should also be supplied in the same way as for Adults.

Your literature investment is small in proportion to the other operating expenses of your School. Study your needs and send your order in now for enough Brethren Quarterlies to meet that need. W. S. B.

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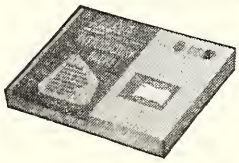

CLIP AND SEND TO US TODAY

To acquaint you and your staff with the exciting lesson materials for 1956, this packet contains teachers' manuals and pupils' workbooks for each of the five departments: Nursery, Beginner, Primary, Junior, and Intermediate. We don't forget the Young People and Adults, for a list of contents of materials for these groups is also provided. Included in this remarkable offer are Handwork Projects for Nursery and Beginner pupils, VBS button, recruiter's cap, invitation postcard, dodger, doorknob hanger and a 16 by 20 inch four-color VBS poster. Retail value, $3.75 — special packet price, $2.95. Plus a free copy of "Champions for Christ."

YES! Please rush me a free copy of the 1956 ABVS Descriptive Catalog, "Champions for Christ."

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Ashland, Ohio.

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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DEDICATION

I said "Let me walk in the fields."
He said: "No, walk in the town."
I said: "There are no flowers there."
He said: "No flowers, but a crown."

I said: "But the skies are black;
There is nothing but noise and din."
And He wept as He sent me back—
"There is more," He said; "There is sin."

I said: "But the air is thick,
And fogs are veiling the sun."
He answered: "Yet souls are sick,
And souls in the dark undone!"

I said: "I shall miss the light,
And friends will miss me, they say."
He answered: "Choose tonight
If I am to miss you or they."

I pleaded for time to be given.
He said: "Is it hard to decide?
It will not seem so hard in heaven
To have followed the steps of your Guide."

I cast one look at the fields,
Then set my face to the town;
He said: "My child, do you yield?
Will you leave the flowers for the crown?"

Then into His hand went mine;
And into my heart came He;
And I walk in a light divine,
The path I had feared to see.

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

GATEWOOD, W. VA. Brother Hays Logan, has moved to Gatewood where he has assumed charge of the Gatewood Church.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. The Boy Scouts and their leaders worshipped with the Wayne Heights Brethren the morning of February 12th.

A Church fellowship, complete with meal and program, was held the evening of February 23rd.

The S. M. M. held their Public Service the evening of February 19th. The sound film, "The African Prince," was shown.

BRUSH VALLEY, PENNA. Brother David L. Rambsel notes that a new mimeograph machine has been given to the Church by Miss Bessie Hooks in memory of her mother, Mrs. J. Y. Hooks.

(Continued on Page 6)

CONFERENCE DATES

Inquiries are coming in relative to District and General Conference dates for the summer of 1956.

Most Districts follow the pattern of a year ago, with the exception of the Ohio District, which has moved its conference from June to July.

(Please note that the dates for the Southeastern Conference have been corrected. Last week we listed the wrong dates. We regret the error.)

INDIANA DISTRICT. June 11th through 14th, at Shipshewana Lake, Indiana.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT. June 19th through 21st, at Oak Hill, W. Va.

OHIO DISTRICT. July 12th through 15th (Place to be announced).

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT. July 16th through 19th, at Third Brethren, Johnstown, Penna.

The General Conference of the Brethren Church meets in Ashland, Ohio, August 13th through 19th.

COMING EVENTS

CANTON, OHIO. Trinity Brethren. Revival Services—March 4-11—Rev. R. K. Higgins, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Keplinger, Pastor.

BRYAN, OHIO. Revival Services—March 5-18—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Evangelist; Rev. Alvin H. Grumbling, Pastor.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Revival Services—March 5-18—Rev. W. E. Thomas, Evangelist; Rev. William H. Anderson, Pastor.

ROANN, INDIANA. Revival Services—Beginning February 27th—Rev. Thomas A. Shannon, Pastor.

DUTCHTOWN BRETHREN (Northeast of Warsaw, Indiana). Revival Services—March 5-18—Rev. Henry Bates, Evangelist; Rev. George Pontius, Pastor.

CERRO GORDO, ILLINOIS. Revival meetings—March 5-14—Rev. H. R. Garland, Evangelist; Rev. Kenneth Mock, Pastor.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. Revival Services—Beginning March 11th. Rev. J. Milton Bowman, Pastor.

SPECIAL NOTICE!!

The Northern Indiana District Laymen will hold their regular Quarterly meeting March 5, 1956 at the Brethren Church in Goshen, Indiana. The meeting will start at 7 P. M. EASTERN STANDARD time. A very interesting program has been planned with Dr. Bender, Professor of the Goshen College Seminary, as guest speaker. His subject will be "Divine Healing." We urge your attendance at this special program.

Please send your reservations to—

Max Bickel
634 North Main St.
Goshen, Indiana.

Richard A. Best
Sec'y. Treas.

The Editor's Pulpit

Lent

IT'S HERE—THE LENTEN SEASON, observed rigidly by the Roman Catholic Church, more or less rigidly by many Protestant Churches, and not recognized as such by other churches.

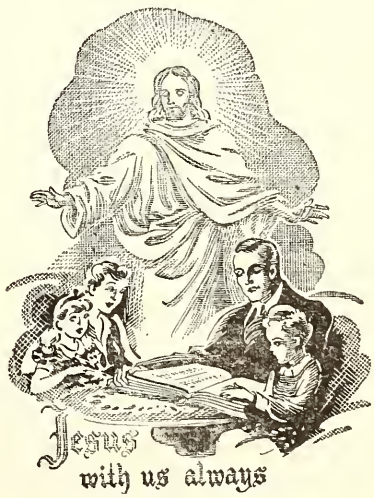
The word "Lent" comes from an old Anglo-Saxon word which means "the season of lengthening of days." This, of course, means that Lent occurs in the Spring of the year. Lent, when first observed as a religious season, covered just the few days preceding Easter, and was a time of special instruction for baptismal candidates. Lent was gradually extended in length until it encompassed a period of time equal to the number of days Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted of the Devil. In the forty days of Lent now observed, Sundays are excluded from the count of days. Lent through the years, became more universal in scope and meaning, and more rigid in its discipline.

The Brethren Church, with its New Testament creed, has never made voice on the matter of Lenten observance. In fact, until recently, and today also, many have not given any emphasis to this pre-Easter Lent observance. So much so, historically, that, in some cases passively, and in others, positively, it was common to say that "The Brethren Church did not observe Lent."

Emphasizing the negative approach of the Brethren, and the hesitancy of the Brethren to embrace Lenten observance, we can point to the fact that Lent was considered too ritualistic—that it approached a "works for salvation" aspect—that penitence, as such, should be a year-around heart activity and not just confined to a 40 day period—and that the things of self-denial during Lent were of a material or temporal nature.

This Editor, knowing the past history of the Brethren Church toward Lenten observance, has watched the trend for the past few years. While an accurate picture is not available because we do not receive weekly bulletins from all of our churches, yet using our weekly inflow of bulletins from our churches as a typical cross-section of our church life, we feel that we can speak authoritively. More than just a few of our churches are actively engaged in a Lenten program, or they participate in Union Lenten services, or Lent is being emphasized in one way or another in their present program. Just as many do not participate in such a program, or at least do not make mention thereof through their bulletins. So, it appears, that, whether to participate, or not, while not violating the distinctive doctrines, practices and ordinances of the Brethren Church, is a matter of local and personal preference.

It seems to this Editor that the self-denial and penitence so earnestly desired during the Lenten season is that which, of the Christian, is desired by our Lord throughout the entire year—not only for 40 days preceding Easter. On the other hand, lessons of self-denial and penitence learned during this period, if learned well, can prove valuable to the Christian throughout the whole year as Christians sincerely desire to live each day in Christ and for Him.—W. S. B.



Decisions of Disciples

Rev. Vernon D. Grissa

DURING LENT, we are visualizing the people who were in the community of the Cross at the time of the crucial conflict, we are emphasizing how little we differ from them.

Last week we preached on, "Decisions of Enemies" from the text, "From that day forth they took council together for to put Him to death." Today our text is from actions of Disciples, Matt. 26:56, "THEN ALL THE DISCIPLES FORSOOK HIM, AND FLED."

Today I am asking myself, "Which were the worse for their decision, those that planned to kill Him or those who deliberated to flee, stay away, just simply indifferently ignore Him and stay away from His House, from His work and His people as though it all meant, NOTHING?

Only two returned: Peter, blundering, cursing, weeping in repentance, returned. John: scared, returned to be beside the Mother of Jesus and to receive the commission to care for her. The rest, forsook Him and fled. It is far better to return and blunder, than to just stay away, ignore, forget, and leave Him there to suffer in shame for their sins. Alone!

Why did the Disciples react this way? They probably didn't understand Jesus and what he had been trying to tell them. They probably didn't understand Discipleship and the way they were expected to react. They probably FLED for FEAR!

This all makes interesting History but it is far more significant when we realize that what was true of Disciples **then** is even more true TODAY, after years of teaching, training and experience.

I. THEY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND JESUS

Although they had a right start, were baptized, confessed their sins and were taken into the inner circle, they were proceeding with weak knees. They weren't sure enough to be counted on when the chips were down. They were not there when they were most needed and expected. We sing, "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken," but it's a cross that weather, work, headaches, and even sleep can conquer. We sing, "Must Jesus bear the Cross Alone and all the World go Free? No there's a Cross for everyone and there's a Cross for Me." Yet Jesus goes on much of the time bearing it alone. We'd rather be part of the world that goes free than to have to undergo the least hardship to help make his church a glorious, victorious place on Sunday morning. The words seldom get off the pages of the Hymn book, as far as we're concerned.

Jesus called the Disciples all to supper; they all came.

Jesus called them to pray with him; part were there, and part slept! "Sleep on, the hour is here."

Jesus called them to take the cross and follow him, "Then, all the Disciples forsook Him and fled!"

II. THEY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND DISCIPLESHIP

If a Social Gospel, Reform, feeding the multitude, Social Action Committee, etc., had been the aim of discipleship, Jesus would not have permitted the Cross! I am sure he would have stayed and led the crusade or headed up the committee for "cleaning up."

BUT THE CROSS, that purpose was a different thing. We can always find plenty to align ourselves against. But he was determined to give a positive, super sacrifice on the cross that would

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(A Sermon delivered in The Brethren Church at Tucson, Arizona.)

surmount all social action in a supreme effort of positive love and sacrifice to reach right down to the roots of all trends that brought on evil. The cross he asked us to take up as disciples was not a cross of "attainment," not cataloguing of sin and virtues, but it was a cross of "following"—to whom am I attached? I owe it all to "Jesus." **Follow me.**

I CAN'T HELP BUT RECALL—once upon a time, with short announcement, we had almost 100 people in the church on Wednesday night "to eat chili." The next Wednesday night at a service that was announced the year around, we had less than one-tenth that number for prayer meeting and Bible Study. I am not against eating in the church! But I am against allowing those I love to place food before "Faith." I was always under the impression that every one in the church was so busy on Wednesday night that they couldn't possibly get away for prayer. I thought **that** was why the Wednesday night service was small. I was forgiving them. But alas and alack . . . It must be just because we serve only spiritual food for the soul on Wednesday night, while what they **really want** is material food for the belly.

Jesus said, when the disciples failed in the garden of prayer, "What, could ye not watch and pray with me for one hour?"

Got a letter from a boy of our Congregation who has been traveling with the Boys Choir for a couple of months. He was writing from the snow bound wonderland in Canada, he wanted to know two things; one, "Will I be home in time for the School Pie Social," and second, (and this touched my heart coming from an 11 year old boy), "Will I get home in time for Spring Communion?" He was one of the first of my members that even asked or was concerned when or "if" **we were having** Spring Communion. Have you thought about it? Would you be wondering if you'd get there if you were traveling in Canada, afraid you might not get home in time for Communion?

Warren Anderson of Clyde, California, wrote a letter to the President of the United States recently asking him if he wouldn't see to putting a fence up along the Government canal near their home? He reminded him that 34 children had lost their lives in that canal because the Government hadn't cared enough to protect them, Yes, my friends, that was a heart rending letter. It made

us almost cry for those parents; we certainly prayed for their lonely hearts, having lost Joe.

Do you know as Disciples of Jesus we should be building some fences of Faith about "our" boys and girls? Some of these days they'll be going down the Canal of "Wasted Lives" and it will be our fault!

What kind of an example are you? Do you take your children faithfully and regularly for training in God's House? Or—don't you even send them to public school regularly? Do you train your children and lead them to pray with sincerity? Or—don't you even expect them to say thank you to friends and neighbors for being good to them? Do you let your children choose the time and place of their church? Or—don't you even believe in telling them which is milk and which is liquor or poison?

DISCIPLESHIP IS CULTIVATION OF SALVATION.—To cultivate in this civilized age, there must be some fences to guide and keep out some strays. Fences of Faith must be erected by regular, Christian habits of Sunday School Training, Prayer, Worship together, Sacrifice to lead our children in the right paths; it can't, "just happen!" The disciples didn't understand Discipleship . . . "I wonder if some of us do Today?"

III. THE DISCIPLES FLED, FOR FEAR

We're living amidst some discouraging trends. We do not have active WAR and SUFFERING,

(Continued on Page 8)

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

CAMERON, W. VA.-QUIET DELL, PENNA. Congratulations are in order for Brother and Sister Cecil Bolton, Jr., on the arrival of Clara Ann Bolton, 8 lbs. 6 oz., on February 8th, in Ohio Valley Hospital, Wheeling, W. Va.

Sister Bolton, in sending us the announcement of Clara Ann's arrival, notes also that Brother Bolton has been very ill since the 2nd of February with a high fever, diagnosed as a possible blood stream infection. Let us remember Brother Bolton in his hour of sickness, at the throne of Grace in prayer for his speedy recovery.

Bible study services are being cared for by Carl Sands, and arrangements for worship services are also being taken care of on the Cameron-Quiet Dell circuit.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. Youth Sunday is scheduled for February 26th when a special program is to be presented.

BRYAN, OHIO. Cash Day for the new building program, is scheduled for March 4th, with a goal of $2,000.00 being set.

Rev. Van Dyke of Montpelier, is to be the speaker at the Bryan Brethren Father and Son banquet on March 1st.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. February 26th is the date for the Boys' Brotherhood Public Program. Rev. Robert Bischof will show pictures of Africa at this service.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Trinity Brethren was host to the Stark County Ashland College Alumni Association at a banquet and program the evening of February 10th.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. The W. M. S. Mission Study Book Review was held on February 22nd.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Brother R. K. Higgins conducted devotions at the Elkhart County Farmer's Institute, at Pierre Moran Park on February 3rd.

WARSAW, INDIANA. W. M. S. Group I will present Mrs. H. D. Hunter, Indiana District W. M. S. President, as the speaker for their Public Service on March 4th.

W. M. S. Groups I and II are scheduled to hold a joint meeting on February 29th for the W. M. S. Mission Study Book Review.

A play, "Aunt Fanny's Miracle," will be presented the evening of February 26th by W. M. S. Group II. The offering will be applied to the purchase of material for baptismal robes, which the group is making for the church.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. "Youth-O-Gram," a mimeographed news sheet for North Manchester Brethren's young people and parents, is currently being printed by Brother Henry Bates.

The proposed plans for North Manchester's new Sunday School addition have been presented to the congregation for consideration.

At the baptismal service on February 5th, seven were baptised and received into the church. At the same service, two were received on former baptism. Brother Bates reports also that nine came forward for rededication at the evening service.

FLORA, INDIANA. The Choir of the Flora Church attended the Revival Services at Mexico, the evening of February 12th, at which time they furnished special music for the service.

WABASH, INDIANA. COLLEGE CORNER BRETHREN. The Sisterhood Public Service is scheduled for Sunday morning, February 26th. Spsaker is Miss Velma Ober, of Elkhart.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Baptismal services were held the evening of February 12th.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. A special program was presented by the Sisterhood girls as their Public Service the evening of February 12th.

MANTECA, CALIFORNIA. Brother C. Y. Gilmer notes that Brother Claud Studebaker, pastor of our Loree, Indiana, Church, was guest speaker in the Manteca Church on February 12th.

A GOOD INVESTMENT

The wealthy Baron de Rothschild once posed as a beggar in the studio of an artist. While the artist, Ary Scheffer, was reproducing the likeness of the supposed beggar, a friend of the artist happened into the studio. So perfectly was Rothschild disguised that the visitor thinking him to be a real beggar, gave him a coin. Without a word of explanation, the pretended beggar put the coin in his pocket. Ten years later the gentleman who gave the coin received a letter from Rothschild and a bank order for 10,000 francs. The letter carried the following message: "You one day gave a coin to the Baron de Rothschild in the studio of Ary Scheffer. He has invested it and today sends you the capital which you entrusted to him, together with the compounded interest. A good action always brings good fortune." On receipt of the letter the surprised man sought out the financier who proved to him from records what he said was true and that under his management that one coin had grown into the large sum.

A beautiful illustration of a blessed truth: "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord: and that which he hath given will He pay him again" (Prov. 19:17) said the writer of the Proverbs. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40). How blessed it is to give in His name to those of His brethren who are in need and to send the Word of Life to the multitudes without the gospel.—Sel.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

THE BISCHOFS

News and Itinerary

BOB AND BEA have been getting a much-needed rest since their return home a few weeks ago. They are living in the Missionary Home in Ashland and enjoying its comforts tremendously. They have mentioned a number of times how much they appreciate the fine living quarters provided for them.

Now they are becoming eager to visit our churches and share their news and enthusiasm for the missionary work in Nigeria. Bob has been working for some time—in conjunction with the office—arranging an itinerary. As you recall, in a previous issue of the **Brethren Evangelist** (January 14, 1956), we said, "An effort will be made to send the Bischofs to your church, **if you have made a request to have them.**" Many churches have written in, requesting that they visit their churches. Bob has been arranging for these visits and making an effort to schedule churches in one area together, in so far as possible.

There are still a few vacancies on their schedule which you may be able to obtain; however, take note of the following dates; if you cannot have them in your church, perhaps you will be close enough to visit one of the churches in your area when they appear there.

The following is their schedule for March: (April will appear later)

March 4—(Sunday) Park Street Brethren Church—Ashland

March 5—enroute to Indiana

March 6—open

March 7 & 8—New Paris, Indiana

March 11—Goshen, Indiana

March 12-15—Elgin, Illinois (General Brotherhood Board meeting—probably)

March 16-19—Roann, Indiana

March 20—travel to Pennsylvania

March 21 & 22—Second Church Johnstown

March 23—open

March 25—Johnstown Second A. M.; Parkhill Ev. Johnstown P. M.

March 26 & 27—open

March 28-30—Vinco

April 1—Vinco

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

(Not having much recent information from their church at the time home mission publicity was put out, we made little mention of the Cumberland Church; however, we received quite a comprehensive report from them in a letter from the pastor since that time. Portions of the letter following indicate that progress is being made.)

. . . Although nothing of a phenomenal nature has transpired, the congregation has enjoyed a gradual, healthy growth in both interest, attendance and membership.

We have been here about a year and a half, during which time we have received by baptism some 24 members (17-¾%), including two fine young ministers and their wives. Each of these men are now occupying pastorates in the Brethren Church. In addition to these, the Congregation has extended the ministerial call to another fine young man, who is now serving as our moderator and church school superintendent. In all probability he will soon enter our seminary. Right now we have two fine families from the Church of the Brethren whom we are receiving by letter next Lord's Day. One young lady will soon be baptized.

We have organized a youth church, with 23 members; it is growing steadily in attendance and interest. A young people's organization has been started under the name of the "C. F." Club (The letters "C. F." meaning "Christ First," in which each member is required to pledge himself to put Christ first in his life. We have three choirs: the regular church choir, a girls' treble clef choir, and the Crusader's choir, composed of youth of 8 to 14 years of age. In each Lord's Day evening service our youth participate—one reading Scripture, another offering the evening prayer, another making announcements and receiving the offering, another giving the benediction. The pastor in this arrangement has nothing to do except deliver the sermon. This is our way of preparing our youth for Christian Service. We have also organized a Junior B. Y. C. in addition to other organizations listed.

It may be of interest to relate the wonderful response we had in our annual Thanksgiving service on November 24. (We do not enter into union services, but conduct our own.) The general theme was, "What Have I To Be Thankful For?" The congregation was invited to offer a testimony in response to the theme. Every adult and several children offered a testimony! Such a service is not to be forgotten, and it should be a means of bringing many blessings to the participants.

On November 27 we had our fall communion service with 56 participants. This is not a large number, but it is one third of the active membership.

Most sincerely,

L. O. McCartneysmith, Minister.

ASHLAND SEMINARY NEWS

Conducted by Ashland Theological Seminary

REVIEWING THE PASSING SCENES

MUCH HAS HAPPENED at the Seminary since this column last went to press. Several parties have been held, a new semester has begun, a new projector and screen have been given to the Seminary, and plans are being fulfilled for the second half of the fiftieth anniversary celebration.

* * *

Phil and Jean Lersch took us to Europe during a very interesting and entertaining fellowship. The Lersch's were overseas last summer in a work camp; at the party they helped us appreciate their experience by teaching us games of many nations. During the evening, Richard Kuns, on behalf of the Men's Gospel Team, presented a SVE Schoolmaster slide projector and a 60 x 60 screen which will be used in a specially constructed classroom. Dean Flora accepted the gift on behalf of the Seminary.

* * *

At a more recent fellowship the "Sem Wives (wives of students) organization held the annual "sweethearts party" to which the husbands were invited. Approximately fifty enjoyed the covered dish meal and the evening of fun and seriousness. Students and faculty alike were victims and victors in the games. Professor Ronk closed the evening with a brief but pointed meditation.

* * *

Dr. Harold Kuhn of Wilmore, Kentucky, will be the "Christian Emphasis Week" speaker this year. This annual event is a highlight on the Ashland campus. Due to illness in the Kuhn family, his coming has been delayed until the week of March 19th. During his time here he will speak to Seminary and pre-seminary students and will be available for private counselling. His being with our group will be a high point in the fiftieth anniversary.

* * *

Still later in the anniversary year, Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith will bring a series of messages on the theme of evangelism. We look forward to his coming.

DECISIONS OF DISCIPLES

(Continued from Page 5)

but we do have a lot of worldly indifference and a "Cold War on Jesus." For fear of selfish preservation, or afraid we'll exert ourselves beyond the Jones' we're developing a ghastly indifference in the presence of our friends, the world and our children,—"toward Jesus."

ONCE AGAIN I have been driven to my knees asking God to "Give me Patience." I lose patience with my very friends; not for detriment to them but for fear they are losing their very souls in the very air of, "I can take Christ or leave Him," attitude. So many things are needed and waiting to be done by His Disciples today and when the moment of action, the high period of sacrifice arrives, all Christ can do is look about and wait! **WAIT! WAIT!** . . . While all the world goes on round about.

"God! Give me Patience, and More, God, have greater patience with those I love."

During the war, a chaplain stumbled into a gutted and wrecked Cathedral. Through great bomb holes the early sun's rays were streaming. There at the organ, a soldier, torn and battle scarred, started to play the unharmed organ. "Hear My Prayer" then "Nearer My God to Thee" on and on, "Rock of Ages" and finally, "In the Cross of Christ I glory, TOWER O'ER THE WRECKS OF TIME"—Towering o'er the wrecks of time. That's it. Your life will have its ups and downs, health and sickness, riches and poverty, buying and selling, wars and peace—but don't forget my dear friends, THIS OLD CROSS WILL STILL TOWER O'ER THE WRECKS OF TIME AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE GLAD IT DOES —if you do not fail **HIM NOW** . . .

For the rest of the Lenten season, instead of Forsaking Him and fleeing in other directions, why don't you make your DECISION AS A DISCIPLE to "COME OUT FOR HIM"—We must have Faith, Faith must stand for something! Your Faith is being weighed in the balances. Does the Cross mean any sacrifice to you . . . or isn't it worth sacrifice? "The Disciples forsook Him and fled." Have you been absent? Return, and the Lord will be good to you!

Tucson, Arizona.

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of March

Topic: Jesus Teaches Confidence in God.

1. Interpreting the Times—Luke 12:49-56.

Jesus, knowing the hopes of the Jews of that time for a Messiah who would bring peace and prosperity through the overthrow of the Roman rule, assured the people that His mission was not to accomplish such ends. Rather, His mission was to create divisions. The holy against the unholy. The truth against untruths. The righteous against the unrighteous. These divisions would know no boundaries, for truth would oppose untruths regardless of the individuals concerned. Even those of close relationship would oppose each other in such matters.

Do you think such divisions still exist in our society today? Do you think they are evident in the daily experiences of almost every family?

2. The Faith We Preach—Romans 10:8-13.

Someone has said that faith is to believe on the Word of God what we do not see, and its reward is to see and enjoy what we believe. The faith we preach as individuals is the faith our lives reveal through our everyday living. Therefore, how effective our preaching of faith is depends entirely upon how much we live by faith in all phases of our lives every day. We are told that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Without faith, such promises have no meaning and, therefore, no significance to us.

In what ways do we show our faith (or lack of faith) in our everyday life?

3. Strive To Enter—Luke 13:22-30.

Jesus said, "Many will seek to enter, and shall not be able." Why? Because they want the spiritual without sacrificing the temporal or physical in order to earn such blessings. Or, in other words, there are those who want salvation but will not live for Jesus Christ. We must remember that Paul says salvation is by grace and is the gift of God. James reminds us that "faith without works is dead." If we want the joy of salvation we must live our lives according to God's Word.

How can faith and works both be necessary to salvation?

What's Doing in the Churches

LOST CREEK, KENTUCKY

The purpose for which Riverside was founded was to reach and save the Lost. When this does not occur it brings much concern to the management of the work. For some time now, the matter of conversions was almost nothing so far as we could see. Then imagine how grateful and thankful we were when converts came to the Lord for salvation. Since our last report in the **Evangelist** eleven young folks have come out for the Lord and all have been baptized. Our last baptismal service saw seven of these eleven go down in the baptismal waters for that sacred rite. We now have a baptistry in our chapel here, and that is so much better than the uncertain creek waters. **All these eleven folks were from the school, ten of them boarding students.**

We still have unsaved young folks in the school, the upper grades, and the high school. May we ask that you join us in prayer that these may yet be saved? We here are praying for that to come to pass.

There is a county wide revival meeting being planned for the month of March. A very remarkable young man is engaged for the speaking. It is hoped that this movement can reach many of the unsaved, who for the last couple of years seem to keep away from the revival meetings.

Building operations, under the direction of Brother Dorman Ronk have progressed well. Things are just now held up for want of the roofing needed. Two of the Brethren from Pa., Daniel L. Forney of Avilla, Pa., and "Abe" A. B. Phillips, Marianna, Pa. spent a week in helping on the building. Their presence and help gave the work a big push, and we all enjoyed their fellowship so much. Come again Brethren, your help has meant a great deal in the work of the Lord in this section.

The morning when the temporary roof was being nailed down, one of the local men, our Church Clerk, Brother G. W. Watts, fell about 12 ft. to the ground. He was seriously hurt, but was taken to Lexington the same day by Brother Ronk, operated on, and is now recovering very nicely, being able to go about the house quite easily. PRAYER HAS DONE MUCH FOR HIS SPEEDY RECOVERY.

This section has had another peculiar thing never known here before. The foxes in the mountains somehow have had a rabies epidemic. They come off the hills, bite stock, dogs, cats, etc. About twenty folks in Breathitt County alone have taken the rabies treatment. Here we had our four head of stock vaccinated, as also some pets. It seems at this writing to be coming under better control. But for awhile folks were afraid to go out nights alone, or have the children out alone day time or night time.

One of the tragic happenings of this epidemic was that the wife of the brother named above, Mrs. Thelma Watts, just when her husband was needing her so much, was bitten by a mad dog on her way to the post office. This dog had contracted the disease in some way. The

first day she had to have three "shots," then one a day for fourteen days. The dog's head was sent to Lexington, where it was found that it had the rabies. A nice and good thing out of all their trials, is that they have kept their faith in God intact. We praise the Lord for that, as they have been sorely tried.

We do know that prayer is the mainstay of the work. Without it, the work could not keep going. The Lord seems just now to be permitting the work to pass through some special testings, and we know that you will pray much for it, THAT ONLY THE WILL OF THE LORD BE DONE, and that the buildings so much needed may not be hindered by the lack of money for their erection. Thank you.

G. E. Drushal.

JONES MILLS, PENNSYLVANIA

New Hymn Racks were placed on the remaining pews last week. This was a project of the Laymen and one of the Laymen did the work.

Deacon Hays K. Logan, one of our members who has been preaching at Kregar, at a Community church which is about five miles from Jones Mills, for the past three years, preached a farewell message for us. Many friends and relatives came for this special service. There was a large number present. Brother Logan was called to the Ministry last fall after preaching several years and now on Tuesday, February 7th, he and his good wife will move to Gatewood, W. Va., to be the pastor of the Brethren church there. May the Lord greatly bless them in this new field of service for their Lord.

Elmer M. Keck.

CERRO GORDO, ILLINOIS

A number of events will take place at Cerro Gordo Brethren Church in the next few weeks. On February 29th and March 1st we will have Dr. Joe Shultz with us for a Christian Worker's School. Beginning March 5th through the 14th, we will have Rev. H. R. Garland with us to hold an Evangelistic Campaign. We know that God is going to bless these meetings. We have a goodly number of Quartets and other Special Music for the Campaign. Among the Highlights of the Campaign, we will have the Mennonite Chorus from Arthur with us; also the Salvation Army Band and Songsters from Decatur. We ask your prayers in this effort to win Souls for Christ.

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

Laid to Rest

MASON. Edward B. Mason, was born Feb. 1, 1865 and departed this life Jan. 24, 1956. Funeral services conducted by the Pastor on Jan. 27th in the Weller-Wonderly Funeral Home, Fremont, Ohio. Mr. Mason has been a member of the Brethren Church since 1920. His daughter is an active member in the Fremont Brethren Church, Fremont, Ohio.

Kenneth Solomon, Pastor.

* * *

DYMOND. Irvin G. Dymond of Fremont, was born Jan. 11, 1901 and departed this life Feb. 2, 1956. Funeral service conducted by the undersigned on Feb. 6, 1956.

Kenneth Solomon, Pastor.

* * *

NAUGLE. Henry Naugle, born Aug. 18, 1882 in Paint Township, now Windber, Penna. Died Jan. 26, 1956. Survived by his wife, the former Jessie Hoover. A son, Marshall, preceded him in death on May 28, 1928 at the age of 19 years. Burial in Akron, Ohio on January 30th.

Mrs. Jessie Naugle.

* * *

EUBANKS. Lional A. Eubanks passed away Feb. 4, 1956 at Good Samaritan Hospital, Dayton, Ohio, following a short illness. He was 49 years of age. Member of the West Alexandria Brethren Church and served as Sunday School Superintendent. He was trustee of the Miami Valley Brethren Laymen's Association. He was President of the local Laymen's Group and teacher of the Men's Bible Class. Survived by his wife, Mildred, a son, three daughters, and a granddaughter. Services conducted in the Brethren Church with the pastor, Rev. H. R. Garland in charge, assisted by a former pastor, Rev. Smith F. Rose, of Howe, Indiana. Burial in Sugar Grove Cemetery.

Betty Jo Goad, Corr. Sec.

THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO and so little time in which to do it! We need to be in dead earnest about our main business of winning the world for Christ's Kingdom.

A man engaged in conversation a Communist who had put a leaflet in his hand. He advised the Communist, "It is no use; you will never get anywhere doing this. At best there are but two hundred thousand Communists in America, while we Christians number seventy-five million."

The Communists replied, "Remember Gideon's band? They had only three hundred. Members of my party are willing to live on the barest necessities of life. Every dime we earn above and beyond our simple needs we turn back to our cause; we believe in it with all our hearts." Then he went on to say, "We are going to be victorious, and, if you want to know, I will tell you why. We have an unshakable faith in our cause. We are even willing to die for it. That is more than you are willing to do!" Is it? How far will you go to serve your cause?—Reuben K. Youngdahl in **The Secret of Greatness** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

IS SUFFERING PROPORTIONED TO SINNING?

"Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all Galileans, because they suffered such things?" Luke 13:2.

SOMETIME, SOME WAY, every person suffers. It is not patent at all times why God permits suffering, but one thing sure—He always has a reason for permitting it. Some times men conclude that God is not good because suffering comes to them. But the coming of affliction is no reason to question God's power, or to attribute helplessness to Him in the face of calamity, and suggest possible indifference to Him when misfortune comes to us. Nor yet should we attribute suffering to being the result of sin in the life of the sufferer. When the inquisitive, scheming enemies of the Lord sought to catch Him, and questioned Him at the healing of the man born blind as to the cause of the blind man's misfortune, Christ assured them there was no sin on the part of the man or his parents.

The fate of the Galileans who were killed while they were worshipping, and of the eighteen on whom the tower of Siloam fell, stirred superstitious horror on the part of some who attempted to impute to these victims an unwonted degree of criminality. Jesus definitely implied that their suffering was not necessarily apportioned according to their sinning.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus asserts that the Father "maketh his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Matt. 5:45. From the Lord's remarks it seems that there is a higher realm of divine action in which moral distinctions of men are disregarded, so that God's dealings may be so distributed that good may come to bad men and evil come to good men. Jesus may have thought it not impossible that some of the good men of Palestine might have been victims of the two calamities mentioned.

A comforting truth remains for all who suffer from any cause, and that is contained in these words of Deuteronomy 33:25 " . . . as thy days, so shall thy strength be."

» » » » Our Poet's Corner « « « «

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

We hurry down Invention Avenue,
While we push easy buttons on the wall.
We fashion fierce and fiercer tools of death—
Do these merit a star on progress' map?

Are we not shaken, stunned—and rightly so?
Has conscience flown?
Left only violence?

Flasing such brilliance of efficiency,
Shall we not complement this power with prayer
For strength to follow Him—our Shield, Our Sight—
To tablelands of light?

Annabelle Merrifield.

A mechanic was called to repair the mechanism of a giant telescope. In the noon hour the chief astronomer came on the man reading the Bible. "What good do you expect from that?" he asked. "The Bible is out-of-date. Why, you don't even know who wrote it!"

The mechanic puzzled a moment, then looked up: "Don't you make use of the multiplication table in your calculations?"

"Certainly."

"Do you know who wrote it?"

"Why, no, I guess I don't."

"Then how can you trust the multiplication table when you don't know who wrote it?"

"We trust it because . . . well, it works," the astronomer finished testily.

"Well, I trust the Bible for the same reason—it just works."—Sel.

FEBRUARY IS BENEVOLENT OFFERING MONTH

Give Liberally for a worthy cause!

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

GOD'S PRESENCE IN A SURRENDERED LIFE

GOD'S PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES is conditioned upon our complete surrender to Him (Rom. 6:13). We must be made free from sin before we can have God's life and fruitfulness in us (Rom. 6:22). The great secret of blessedness and power is absolute yieldedness unto God (Rom. 6:13b). It is to put ourselves at God's disposal (Gal. 2:20). To give one's self to God as His property is the wisest thing one can do with himself (Rom. 12:1, 2).

Absolute surrender will give knowledge of spiritual truth (1 John 1:5; John 7:17). Only those whose eye is cleared by absolute surrender to God can see His eternal verities (Matt. 6:22, 23). There can be no power in prayer without a surrendered will and life (1 John 3:22). John sought to do only those things which are pleasing in God's sight. There can be no prevailing prayer without a surrendered will and life (Psalm 37:4). Jesus was always heard in prayer (John 11:42). This was because He always did NOT His own will but the will of the Father (John 4:34; 6:38; Heb. 10:7).

Another result of a surrendered will is a heart overflowing with Joy (John 15:10, 11). There is no joy in a half-hearted Christian life (Matt. 6:24; Rom. 7:18, 24). A compromise religion is very uncomfortable (Isaiah 28:20). Again, a surrender of self to Christ will bring Christ to us (John 14:21).

"O Christ, I used to say, 'Help me come to Thee.'
But can I say it now, when Christ hath come to me?
Dear Presence in my soul, where Thou hast found Thy rest!
Why seek Thee in the skies. Who dwellest in my breast?"

The fact that Christ comes to us now is an assurance that He will come for us in the future glad day (1 Thess. 4:16). He manifests Himself unto us NOW if we are fully yielded to Him (John 14:23). And when we see Him we are glad (John 20:20). The absolute surrender of will and life is the secret of receiving the Holy Ghost (Acts 5:32). To be surrendered is to be within His will and to have our petitions answered (1 John 5:14, 15). The secret of power for God is the Holy Ghost upon us (Acts 1:8), and the secret of the Holy Ghost upon us is a yielded will and life (Rom. 6:13).

That reasonable plan—
How any, ANY man
(And this means woman, too)
Might reach Him and be sure:
If anyone obeys My teaching, he
It is that loves Me. And for loving Me,
My Father will love him, that together
We too, will come, content with nothing less,
And make our home with him.
His home! Why, then, God loves my homeliness!
He wants to come. I take it He'll be here.
Not just on stated occasions, when I'm dressed;
Nor tidy for the afternoons. He'll know me best,
And be most near me, when I make the pies;
On days the sweep comes; when the baby cries;
When every room wants cleaning; and the mending,
The patching and the darning seems unending;
When all my nerves are frayed to finest edges;
And when the children seem to have a knack
Of scribbling on the doors and window ledges,
Or take my scissors and don't bring them back.

'Tis then I need a Guide for hand and lip—
The GIFT of firm yet gracious statesmanship.
And oh, how glad I am He did not say,—
"The promise is for those who feel Me near."
No, 'tis for those who honestly obey
And honour Him . . . So with my heart I will.
He'll stay if I but love Him . . . and I do,
So what about it? Sure? Why here's the sum—
I need not grope for Him, because . . . HE'S COME!

—Fay Inchfawn.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for March 4, 1956

JESUS FACES THE CITY

Lesson: Luke 19:37-48

ISAAC WATTS, the song writer, asks the question:
"Is this vile world a friend to grace,
To help me on to God?"

The answer was obvious to Watts—this old, sinful world is not friendly to the sacred things of God, or to any who dare stand for God! Jesus found this to be so when He confronted the world with His claims.

Our lesson begins with Christ's Triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It was the Passover season. The people were caught up in the spirit of the hour. The great throngs of people that flocked into the Holy City for this holy occasion—the Messianic hope that gripped the hearts of the faithful—the wonderful miracles that had been performed by Jesus, especially the miraculous raising of Lazarus from the dead—all these brought forth the spontaneous desire on the part of the people to crown Christ as their King.

"The whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord."

How wonderful it was! At long last Jesus Christ had been recognized as King! But had He? Did they know

what they were saying? Were they ready to accept Him as their Saviour, or did they merely look for an earthly Deliverer?

History confirms the fact that the people were seeking for someone to deliver them from the bonds of the Roman Government. **Christ came to set men free from the bonds of sin and spiritual darkness!** Too few people want this!

Even today we find many who are willing to jump on the band-wagon of Christianity simply for selfish purposes. This is hardly complimentary to God. In his thought-provoking book, **The Problem of Pain,** C. S. Lewis has written: "God is not proud . . . It is hardly complimentary to God that we should choose Him as an alternative to Hell: yet even this He accepts."

Realizing the true intent and heart condition of the people of His day, Jesus drew nigh to the City of Jerusalem. Viewing the city with all its wondrous outward beauty—with its utter inward selfishness and coldness of heart—with its rejection of Him—Jesus "wept over it."

Then began He to prophesy the result of Jerusalem's rejection of truth and subsequent spiritual blindness: "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes."

After saying this, Christ spoke of the awful destruction that was to come to the city by the hand of Titus in 70 A.D. And why must the Holy City be destroyed? "Because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation."

We cannot but think that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by once again. Up and down the streets of the cities and towns of our great land of America He walks. He comes through the means of the Church. Yet many pass by the door. He comes through the Godly lives of His children. Yet the indifferent give no heed to the testimony of the Saints.

The day of His visitation is drawing to a close. Will He be forced to pronounce doom and destruction upon this land because we have refused to accept His claims?

May it never be said that Christ Jesus visited us, and yet we were unaware of the time of His visitation!

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

A PARABLE FOR BRETHREN YOUTH

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW a big gun can fire at a range of seven miles or more and hit an army blanket? They do it! Wanta know how? Well, we don't have space here to tell all about it, but we can give some of the principles involved and, what is more important, the persons and instruments that are used in making a firing mission on the battle field a success.

BIG GUNS

Near the big gun and its crew is a telephone over which a mysterious voice gives data for firing on the enemy, and gives complete orders which in turn come down from the officer in forward observation. This officer may be in an airplane, on a hill or in a tower where he can observe through binoculars the movements of the enemy and the effect of fire on them. It takes this and more too to make this big gun destroy an enemy target.

There is something near the gun which you haven't yet noticed. You might have even stumbled over it or run into it several times in the past, but you never gave a thought except for its unusual color as to its part in this big operation. It is a red and white striped metal pole, about the size of a broom handle, somewhere—perhaps within one hundred feet—within sight of the chief gunner. Without this pole—or "aiming stake" as it is called—no firing mission could be accomplished. It is just about the most important little object in the whole firing mission.

The gun, when it is moved into position at first, is "laid"—adjusted to a certain compass, or direction—by an instrument with a compass. After this the "aiming stake" is set with the big gun still "aimed" in the same direction, and the cross hairs of the aiming sight on the gun are carefully lined up against the picture of the aiming stake in the lens of the telescope. When an enemy target is sighted by the observation officer, information is radioed to a fire-direction center from whence data is given to the big gun. The gunner immediately turns his sight so many degrees right or left, thus moving his sight off the aiming stake. His right hand impetuously twirls an adjusting screw which moves the gun right or left until the cross hairs of the sight again line up against the aiming stake. Woe unto the enemy target because of that little aiming stake! The gun is kept constantly on its range by a red and white metal pole!

JUST SUPPOSE

Just suppose that there was no forward observer; the radio quit working; the telephone was dead; the computer wasn't efficient in his

(Continued on Page 15)

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

January 1st to February 10th

(Some of the Churches listed below are on the Budget system. Thus their listed gifts represent one-fourth of their yearly gift to Brethren Publications.)

Mrs. Cynthia Slotter, Tiffin, Ohio	$ 10.00
Miscellaneous	10.00
Mrs. Maude Webb, Goshen, Ind.	100.00
Goshen Brethren, Goshen, Indiana	69.96
Louisville Brethren, Louisville, Ohio	25.20
Pleasant Hill Brethren, Pleasant Hill, Ohio	12.72
Nappanee Brethren, Nappanee, Indiana	100.00
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George W. Middleton, Winchester, Va.	2.00
Milford Brethren Church, Milford, Ind.	50.00
Miss Gail Miller, Westminster, Md.	.50
Mada D. Turvy, Hollywood, Florida	1.00
B. F. Buzard, Riviera Beach, Cla.	5.00
Maude Drayer, New Lebanon, Ohio	5.00
Columbus Brethren Church, Columbus, O.	10.00
Lester Myers, Chicago, Ill.	5.00
Mrs. Thomas Corner, Fostoria, Ohio	1.00
Udell Brethren Church, Udell, Iowa	12.00
Burlington Brethren Church, Burlington, Ind.	40.00
Doris Lanehart, Saxton, Pa.	1.00
Rev. & Mrs. George J. King, Mt. Pleaasnt, Pa.	3.00
Mr. & Mrs. W. Daniels, Mt. Pleasant, Pa.	1.00
Minnie Sloan, Mulberry, Ind.	10.00
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Denver Brethren Church, Denver, Ind.	41.29
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New Lebanon Brethren Church, New Lebanon, O.	150.00
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Jacob F. Curie, Smithville, Ohio	10.00
Gretna Brethren Church, Bellefontaine, Ohio	92.20
Fremont Brethren Church, Fremont, Ohio	16.34
Mexico Brethren Church, Mexico, Ind.	20.00
Fair Haven Brethren Church, West Salem, O.	37.53
Dessie M. Hollinger, Hagerstown, Md.	1.00
New Paris Brethren Church, New Paris, Ind.	129.33
Mrs. Elsie M. King, East Millsboro, Pa.	5.00
Cameron Brethren Church, Cameron, W. Va.	15.00
Williamstown Brethren Church, Williamstown, O.	127.27
E. S. Baker, New Florence, Pa.	5.00
Tiosa Brethren Church, Tiosa, Ind.	28.00
Park Street Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio	79.25
County Line Brethren Church, Lapaz, Ind.	23.45
Peru Brethren Church, Peru, Ind.	30.00
Mrs. Estella Sayre, Dallas, Texas	3.00
Mr. & Mrs. S. D. Stuckman, New Paris, Pa.	10.00
North Liberty Brethren Church, North Liberty, Indiana	57.00
Mr. & Mrs. Harlan Jennings, New London, Ohio	15.00
Glenford Brethren Church, Glenford, Ohio	25.00
Mrs. L. A. Myers, Sabetha, Kansas	1.00
Mr. & Mrs. Harland R. Clapper, Canton, Ohio	5.00
Mrs. Nina M. Bishop, Kissimmee, Fla.	10.00
Gatewood Brethren Church, Gatewood, W. Va.	2.00
Roanoke Brethren Church, Roanoke, Ind.	24.00
Vinco Brethren Church, Vinco, Pa.	147.00
Mr. & Mrs. C. R. Swihart, Tampa, Fla.	8.50
Newark Brethren Church, Newark, Ohio	10.00
Firestone Park Brethren Church, Akron, Ohio	48.75
Berlin Brethren Church, Berlin, Pa.	171.45
Gratis Brethren Church, Gratis, Ohio	12.00
Mrs. Ada F. Kimmel, Gratis, Ohio	5.00
White Dale Brethren Church, Terra Alta, W. Va.	14.60
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College Corner Brethren Church, Wabash, Ind.	28.30
Quiet Dell Brethren Church, Quiet Dell, Pa.	2.50
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Center Chapel Brethren Church, Wabash, Ind.	54.30
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Lee, Tiosa, Ind.	3.00
Ardmore Brethren Church, South Bend, Ind.	63.00
Maurertown Brethren Church, Maurertown, Va.	23.50
North Georgetown Brethren, N. Georgetown, O.	10.00
Pleasant View Brethren, Vandergrift, Pa.	20.00
Maude M. Pearson, Jones Mills, Pa.	5.00
Katharine Miller, Jones Mills, Pa.	10.00
Oakville Brethren Church, Oakville, Ind.	17.25
Mt. Olivet Brethren Church, Georgetown, Del.	22.25
Total amount to February 10th, 1956	$2,689.13

YOUTH CRUSADERS

(Continued from Page 13)

figures; the gun crew was wiped out; but most of all THE AIMING STAKE WAS LOST! The enemy could maneuver at will without fear of being seen. There would be no return fire, and the enemy would gradually increase in strength while allied forces would be weakened and depleted. The enemy advances!

WHY THE PARABLE?

I'll tell you why. BRETHREN YOUTH IS THE GUN CREW. God is the Forward Observer who observes the enemy in action, calling for return fire to destroy them. We who try to direct the work are in fire-direction center where the data is figured to give to the crew. And the aiming stake? THE AIMING STAKE IS WHAT YOU GIVE TO SUPPORT THE WORK. Without this bright sign of support and encouragement to keep our sights upon there can be no way of putting down the enemies of discouragement, anti-youth worldliness.

We pivot on your steadfast loyalty to Brethren Youth to take on new projects (not just a national B. Y. project, now!) in the labors of the Lord. By your faith and trust in us, and your own stand we proceed to take action against satan's host. Give your local B. Y. organization a boost; be an aiming stake for their crew.

Your youth organizations: Brotherhoods, Sisterhoods, Signal Lights, B. Y. C. groups, work together in a united front as a big gun crew, each doing its part in the Great Campaign of life. WHAT IF THE AIMING STAKE—your faith and help—SHOULD FAIL?

Think it over!

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

BENEVOLENT OFFERING

(For Brethren's Home and Retired Ministers' Fund)

Make checks payable to L. V. King, Treasurer, and address Rev. L. V. King, 1033 E. Main St., Louisville, Ohio.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

THE QUEST FOR HAPPPINESS

HAPPINESS is a thing that is being sought after by a high proportion of both secular and Christian people. In a world so filled with avoidable and unavoidable misfortunes, of illness and psychological tangles, of struggle and poverty, ill-will and sin, the man or woman who is to be happy must find ways of coping with the many causes of unhappiness by which each of us is assailed.

Happiness depends partly upon external circumstances and partly upon our mental and spiritual attitudes. To most men and women certain things such as food and shelter, health, love, successful work and respect are indispensable to our happiness. Only the exceptional man can achieve happiness where these things are lacking. For, some who have these basic requirements and still cannot find themselves we tend to classify as maladjusted. Where our external circumstances are not definitely unfortunate, a person should be able to achieve happiness, provided his interests are directed outward and upward, not inward. It is not the nature of most men to be happy in a prison and the passions which shut us up in ourselves constitute one of the worst kinds of prisons. Among such passions are fear, envy, self-pity and self-admiration. In all these our desires are centered upon ourselves. There is no genuine interest in the world about, but only a concern lest it should in some way injure or fail to feed our ego.

The truly happy man or woman is the one who turns his or her life completely over to Jesus, the Christ, repenting of sins and then setting himself objectives for living unselfishly for Christ and those about him. We read in Romans that none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. Even the thought of death to the believer does not effect his happiness in this life but the problems and struggles in the pursuit of happiness here tend only to prepare him more effectively for the life beyond. It is in a profound union with our Christ and in serving Him that we can have true happiness.

Mrs. Glenn L. Clayton,
Ashland, Ohio.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

This Year...

Set New Records in Your VBS with the "CHAMPIONS for CHRIST" PROGRAM

In this year of Olympic Games, seize the opportunity to train spiritual champions for Christ in your community.

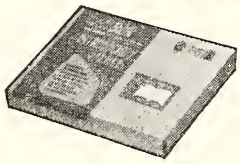
It's ready now: the 1956 edition of the "complete-to-the-last-detail" Vacation Bible school plan. Brimful of proved suggestions that assure success in conducting a VBS that really reaches the entire family for Christ.

Besides the essentials for planning your 1956 program, this catalog includes a complete description of ALL-BIBLE Vacation School materials for the entire family — Nursery through Adult departments. You can realize more resultful spiritual progress per dollar invested in ALL-BIBLE Vacation School materials than in any other course, because it is so completely planned and integrated.

Send for your **FREE** descriptive catalog, now, and follow through on the planning that is so thoroughly prepared for you.

PREVIEW THE 1956 ABVS COURSE

with this Introductory Packet



CLIP AND SEND TO US TODAY

To acquaint you and your staff with the exciting lesson materials for 1956, this packet contains teachers' manuals and pupils' workbooks for each of the five departments: Nursery, Beginner, Primary, Junior, and Intermediate. We don't forget the Young People and Adults, for a list of contents of materials for these groups is also provided. Included in this remarkable offer are Handwork Projects for Nursery and Beginner pupils, VBS button, recruiter's cap, invitation postcard, dodger, doorknob hanger and a 16 by 20 inch four-color VBS poster. Retail value, $3.75 — special packet price, $2.95. Plus a free copy of "Champions for Christ."

YES! Please rush me a free copy of the 1956 ABVS Descriptive Catalog, "Champions for Christ."

Enclosed, please find $2.95 for a complete Introductory Packet of 1956 ABVS materials.

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Ashland, Ohio.

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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VOL. LXXVIII March 3, 1956 No. 9

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. This new Brethren Church reports that at a recent meeting of the W. M. S., seven new members were added to the organization.

LOST CREEK, KENTUCKY. Brother Henry Bates, of our North Manchester, Indiana, Church, was the speaker at the 14th Annual Bible Conference held at Riverside on February 23rd and 24th. The theme, according to the announcement sent to us by Brother G. E. Drushal, was "Go—Tell," based on Matthew 28:7. The Owenses of Three Links, Kentucky, were in charge of the music of the Conference.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz was guest speaker at the Uniontown Church of God the evening of February 15th.

Brother Shanholtz notes a recent payment of $500.00 plus interest toward the debt incurred in the church's redecoration program a year ago.

HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND. Brother Freeman Ankrum, of the St. James Church, presented colored slides

(Continued on Page 10)

ATTENTION

A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPEAL, which can be appended to this year's Brethren's Home and Benevolent Board appeal, has come from John R. Johnston, President of the Board, and Rev. E. M. Riddle, Secretary. The appeal is as follows:

The Indiana State Board of Health is requiring a change in the water system at the Brethren's Home, and that as soon as possible. The cost will be between $1,000.00 and $1,200.00. This makes an added appeal for funds for The Church Home.

(Brethren, knowing the needs of the Home, as outlined in the **Evangelist** early in February can well know what this added expenditure will mean to the Home budget, and can act accordingly—W. S. B.)

ANNUAL BRETHREN PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

Dates—April 10, 11, 12.

Special features

- Communion service for ministers and wives
- Coffee hour and fellowship
- Discussion groups
- Time to visit old and new friends
- Inspirational and instructional sessions

Special Speakers:

- Rev. Kenneth Hulit, Canton, Ohio
- Rev. Robert Bischof, Nigeria, Africa
- Dr. Shultz, Chicago, Illinois

The Editor's Pulpit

Amen! Until ---

WE ARE ALL REMINDED OF THE time-worn, yet up-to-date story of the colored preacher, who, one Sunday morning was preaching against the sins of the people. As he went through the category—gambling, drinking, smoking, chewing, card-playing, etc., a dear old colored mammy in the audience, was punctuating his remarks with "Amen, amen, that's right, Brother Brown, you tell them." Loud and long the preacher expounded, and louder became mammy's approving comments. Victory against all sin was assured. That is, until the preacher in his conscientious adherance to duty, began to preach against the sin of gossiping, which incidentally, was the favorite full time work of the amen mammy. She was noticeably silent all of a sudden, and no amens came forth. As parson Brown continued to preach against gossipping in in the midst of a profound silence, the old colored mammy suddenly burst forth and said, "Now, parson, you done quit preaching and now you're meddling."

Christianity has always had its flag wavers. That is, people who are always ready to Amen, and to wave the flag for the cause of Christ until it hits them personally. When a sermon begins to crowd a little, and we begin to feel a little guilty because the sermon reminds us that we have not been as faithful as we should have been, then we more or less feel that the reverend has quit preaching and is beginning to meddle.

Any course in salesmanship will train a person to watch for the point of customer resistance. That is, the point in the sales appeal when the approving and desiring customer begins to resist as the cost of the article is announced. At that point, desire begins to be o'ershadowed by the customer's thought of what it will cost him. We all want things, until we learn it is going to cost us something.

It is this realization of cost that causes many flag wavers of the Christian faith to drop their banners and retreat. How many times have ministers presented messages on winning new souls to the Lord and to membership in the church. Nods and amens of approval fill the air, for would it not be nice to have a lot of new members to help fill the empty pews and to make a good showing on the statistical report? Then the preacher announces that these new souls will be won **only** through **the earnest and personal efforts** of the members of the congregation—that if new members are to be obtained, the present members will have to go out and visit, teach, and bring them in. When he says it is each member's personal responsibility, a lot of flags will drop and many heads will nod only in slumber. Yes, Amen! Until—.

Likewise, a lot of amen Christians furl their flags when the pictures of a glorious advancing local or denominational program also includes a financial need. We'd like to see our church and denomination become bigger and better, with a great program of expansion and evangelism. The picture looks good until we find that without our sacrificial giving, the program will fail. When we Brethren baptize, we let our new members leave their pocket books in the dressing room, when what we should do is ask them to take them with them into the baptistry. Baptising the individual and his pocketbook, will assure the financial success of an otherwise limping church program.

Then, too, we amen the need of workers, and laud far and wide the devotion and surrender of those who have become missionaries and preachers and preachers wives. But we drop the flag when an appeal for workers comes close to our own family.

Christ went all the way for us. Let us, when the call to devotion of self and substance, say amen the whole way, not just until it "meddles."
—W. S. B.

New Testament Doctrines

Believed and Practised by People Called Brethren.

By L. O. McCartneysmith

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Theme: "For then shall be Great Tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21).

* * *

IN TWO RECENT ISSUES of this publication, (September 3, 1955, and January 28, 1956), "The Doctrine of The Second Coming of Jesus Christ," and "The Signs of The End of The World, or End of Gentile Government," were discussed respectively.

In the first presentation the fact was established that there are two distinctly separate appearances of Jesus Christ mentioned in Scripture: (1) His Coming for His Bride, the Church; and (2) His Return With His Bride (or Queen) to Judge the World in Righteousness. Scriptural authority relating to these separate events may be found in (1) John 14:1-3; Matthew 24:27, 36-46; 1 Thess. 4:13-18, and (2) Matthew 24:29-31. Matthew 25: 31-46; Revelation 19:11-16, respectively.

The New Testament writers clearly delineate these two separate appearances. Unprincipled false teachers have attempted to set forth the claim of a "spiritual" appearance; but it would seem that the Holy Spirit anticipated that such false claims would be made, and caused the New Testament writers to use two Greek words, neither of which could be misconstrued. These are: (1) The Greek word "Parousia," which means to be personally present in bodily form. This word is used thirteen times in the New Testament, and in each instance it means the same thing. This Greek verb is always used when referring to the Second Coming of Christ for His Bride! (2) The Greek word "Apokalupsis" is used in relating to His Return to Judge The World In Righteousness, which always means a Revelation.

The time elapsing between these two "appearances" is estimated by various authorities as being approximately seven years. This estimate is founded largely upon Daniel's "seventieth week" (See Daniel 9:24-27), and also on the Seven Seals of Revelation, chapters, 6 to 9. The great tribulation spoken of in the Theme at the beginning of this treatise is, according to scripture, to occur during these seven years.

That we may better comprehend what the tribulation covers, it seems well to define it:

THE GREAT TRIBULATION is a period of unexampled trouble predicted in Scripture from Psalm 2:4-6 to Revelation 7:14, and described in Revelation, chapters six to fourteen. It seems to involve the entire world (Rev. 3:10), and is spoken of as "the time of Jacob's trouble" (See Jeremiah 30:7).

Its vortex is Jerusalem and the Holy Land. It will involve the people of God (Jews) who have returned to Palestine in unbelief; also all "believers" who are not "ready" when Jesus comes again for His Bride; these, together with all living unbelievers who will be left when Christ returns, will pass through this Great Tribulation.

In duration, it will cover a period of approximately seven years, or the "seventieth week" mentioned by Daniel (Daniel 9:24-27), and brought before us also in Revelation, chapter 6, with the Opening of the Seven Seals.

Elements of greatest intensity of the Tribulation will cover the last 3½ years of the seven year period, which are: (1) The cruel reign of the "beast of the sea" (Rev. 13:1), who, at the beginning of the 3½ years of his reign, will break his covenant with the Jews, by virtue of which they will have re-established the temple worship, (Dan. 9:27); and showing himself in the temple, will demand that he be worshipped as God (Matthew 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:4). (2) The active interposition of Satan, who, having been thrown out of heaven together with all his angels (Rev. 12:7-12) so that he can no longer appear before God and make accusation against His people, "having great wrath" gives him power to the "beast" or world emperor (Rev. 13:4, 5). (3) The unprecedented activity of demons (Rev. 9:2-11); and (4) The terrible "bowl" of Judgments of Revelation 16th chapter.

Nevertheless the Great Tribulation will be a period of Salvation. The "elect" of Israel is shown as being sealed for God (Rev. 7:4-8), and with an "innumerable multitude" are said to have "come out of great tribulation" (Scofield). It seems that at this point a very erroneous claim should be refuted. It is claimed by many that the Holy Spirit leaves this world when the Church is "caught up to meet Christ in the air." If this claim be true, just how could there be any tribulation Saints born again? Just how could Israel be born again, "a nation born in a day?" Just how could there be 144,000 of the Jews "sealed" as shown in Revelation 7:4-8, or just how did the "innumerable" multitude "wash their robes in the Blood of the Lamb?" (Rev. 7:14). These questions should be sufficient evidence as to the untruthfulness of the above claim.

Immediately after the Great Tribulation Jesus Christ will return with His Bride, the Queen, to judge the

world in Righteousness, and establish His Kingdom at Jerusalem. (We read in Matthew 24:29-31 of this great event.) That we might have a better understanding of the order of the events that will transpire during this Great Tribulation, the Beloved John was invited to "Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter" (Rev. 4:1). Being transported into the heavenly realm John beheld the Throne of God and The One who sat thereon, holding a Book, sealed with seven seals. An angel called for some one who would be worthy to break these seals and release the secrets the book held; but no man was found worthy to either read the book nor look thereon. But Jesus Christ was found worthy, and took the Book and opened the seals (Revelation 5:1-14). The events of each of these sealed revelations were portrayed in a vision to the Apostle, the first four being four different horses, with an equal number of varied riders, which we shall view together as John saw them:

I. THE OPENING OF THE FIRST SEAL

(Or the revelation of the first year of the period.)

Amid the great noise of thunders, John witnessed a White Horse, "and he that sat upon him had a bow; and a crown was given to him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer" (Revelation 6:2).

Many Bible expositors speak of this "bow" as being of the type that arrows are propelled from; however, it seems more plausible to think of it as a "halo" rather than a "bow" used with arrows, inasmuch as no arrows are mentioned, and a bow would be entirely useless without arrows and a quiver to hold them! Practically all Biblical artists have portrayed the great ones of Bible history with such a "bow" or "halo," including our Lord. The color of the horse denotes peace and purity. Apparently no bloodshed is connected with this rider, inasmuch as the rider following is red, which denotes blood.

Just who this Rider is has been a matter of great conjecture. Roman Victors rode white horses. "Alford and Stern portray him as Christianity personified, breaking down earthly power and making the kingdoms of this world to become the Kingdom of our Lord and Christ." (Biederwolf). But nothing is said anywhere about any kind of kingdom: neither do Christian men break down other kingdoms. We are told that Christ, the Rock, will break down kingdoms until they become as the dust of summer threshing floors (See Daniel 2:44-45). These seem also to forget that Christians are not here on earth immediately after the Second Coming of Christ, who "catches them up to meet Him in the air!" The fallacy of this claim is evident. Some of the Futuristic school of thinking, make the image a personification of a false Christ, and see here a picture of the Antichrist during the last days proclaiming peace indeed, but a false peace; however the rider of the second horse is given authority to "take peace from the earth," and it does not say that it is a "false peace!" The writer is unwilling to positively state that this rider is the Holy Spirit. But one fact is certain: **if there are to be Tribulation Saints, the Holy Spirit must convict them of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.** He never fails to convict men. He is able to convict even the worst sinner! Will there ever be a more favorable time to convert sinful men than then?

It seems that just after the Rapture of God's Saints, when all sinful, unbelieving and disobedient people are left here without a single Christian to guide them to Christ, that the work of the Holy Spirit would be essential. If He should not go forth victoriously, just how can there be 144,000 of the "elect" Jews—12,000 from each tribe be "sealed" for God, as shown in Revelation 7:4-8? And just how could these be "a great multitude which no man can number" standing before the throne, who had "washed their robes in the Blood of the Lamb?" It is emphatically stated in Revelation 7:14 that "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." Just who led them to the Lamb? The only answer is that it was He that has always done so!

II. OPENING OF THE SECOND SEAL

(Or the Revelation of the second year)

Here we see a Red Horse going forth, and the rider carries a Great Sword, and has been given authority to take peace from the earth, or to make war throughout the world; and **that they should kill one another.** Expositors are united concerning this horse and his rider: it is WAR personified. Practically every nation in the world is today feverishly preparing for what most people believe may be the last war. No one seems to under stand just why such preparation is being made. But all of this preparation will be demoralized when Jesus comes for His Bride. All of the Christian commanders will be taken away. All the Christian Rulers, statesmen, and others will be taken up into the heavens. All governments will be a chaotic "jumble." All great armies and

(Continued on Page 8)

COMING EVENTS

BERLIN, PENNSYLVANIA. Evangelistic Services—**March 18-25**—Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, Evangelist, Rev. Lyle I. Lichtenberger, Pastor.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Spring Revival—**March 12-25**—Rev. Ivan Sisk, Dayton YFC Director, Evangelist; Rev. John T. Byler, Pastor.

AKRON, INDIANA. Spiritual Emphasis Week—**March 18-25**—Rev. Clarence S. Fairbanks, Speaker; Rev. Ralph McFadden, Pastor.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Lenten Services—**March 11-16**—Rev. Virgil E. Meyer, Speaker; Rev. H. Francis Berkshire, Pastor.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin, Governor of Maryland, Special Speaker—**Sunday evening, March 18th**—Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Pastor.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. Revival Services—**Beginning March 11th.** Rev. J. Milton Bowman, Pastor.

CANTON, OHIO. Trinity Brethren. Revival Services—**March 4-11**—Rev. R. K. Higgins, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Keplinger, Pastor.

BRYAN, OHIO. Revival Services—**March 5-18**—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Evangelist; Rev. Alvin H. Grumbling, Pastor.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Revival Services—**March 5-18**—Rev. W. E. Thomas, Evangelist; Rev. William H. Anderson, Pastor.

ROANN, INDIANA. Revival Services—**Beginning February 27th**—Rev. Thomas A. Shannon, Pastor.

DUTCHTOWN BRETHREN (Northeast of Warsaw, Indiana). Revival Services—**March 5-18**—Rev. Henry Bates, Evangelist; Rev. George Pontius, Pastor.

CERRO GORDO, ILLINOIS. Revival meetings—**March 5-14**—Rev. H. R. Garland, Evangelist; Rev. Kenneth Mock, Pastor.

SPECIAL NOTICE!!

The Northern Indiana District Laymen will hold their regular Quarterly meeting March 5, 1956 at the Brethren Church in Goshen, Indiana. The meeting will start at 7 P. M. EASTERN STANDARD time. A very interesting program has been planned with Dr. Bender, Professor of the Goshen College Seminary, as guest speaker. His subject will be "Divine Healing." We urge your attendance at this special program.

Please send your reservations to—

Max Bickel
634 North Main St.
Goshen, Indiana.

Richard A. Best
Sec'y. Treas.

WHAT IS PRAYER?

Prayer is weakness leaning on omnipotence.

Prayer is faith laying hold on God's promises.

Prayer is hope realizing its fruition in anticipation.

Prayer is the thirsty soul's cry for the Living Water.

"Prayer and provender hinder no man's journey."—Old Proverb.

Prayer is a virtue that prevails against all temptations.

Prayer is the Christian's staff by which he is helped along his homeward way.

Prayer is the atmosphere in which all Christian virtues grow to perfection.

Prayer is inspiration climbing the ladder of promise to lay hold on Divine realities.

Prayer is the child taking hold of the hand of its Father for strength and guidance.

Prayer is the believer's outstretched hand and upward vision seeking all the fullness of God.

Prayer is the Divine wand by which we transmute life's trials, temptations, and drudgeries into the gold of character.

Prayer is a groan, "Ah!" The very cry of distress is an involuntary appeal to the invisible power whose aid the soul invokes.

Prayer is the open door by which the individual or the church may pass from weakness to strength and from struggle to everlasting victory. —Bowden.

FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS I have tried to keep a mental list of the excuses that have been offered to me for not going to church. During the last nine years, I don't think I have heard a new one . . . only repetitions of those I heard the first year, with some novel variations. You wouldn't believe some of the excuses that have been given by people with perfectly straight faces! Perhaps they think that preachers, when they enter the ministry, take a vow to believe everything they hear.

A pastor in Dayton Beach, Florida, had a good idea. In a recent bulletin he ran a check list; across the top are the words, "I cannot attend church services because:" And then . . . "Please check." Following are some reasons that a person can check: "Too busy. Must go to the movies. Pleasure trip. Company. Have to go fishing. Disinterestedness. Radio and TV program. Need to rest." And then there is this instruction across the bottom: "Please tear off and mail to God."

Robert E. Goodrich, Jr., in **What's It All About?** Fleming H. Revell Co.).

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524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

FACTS AND FORECASTS

THE MISSIONARY BOARD, meeting on February 14, with eleven members and the general secretary in attendance, considered a great many important items, which kept them busy until 10:40 P. M.

Following are some of the decisions of the Board that may interest **Evangelist** readers:

Classroom Building at Lost Creek

Since the parsonage at Lost Creek should be completed within a few months, the Board is requesting Dorman Ronk to remain and supervise further work (with the funds on hand) on the Classroom Building, which has been temporarily halted for lack of funds. Dorman has submitted plans to the Board for completing a portion of the building. These plans include the gymnasium and showers, several classrooms, office, and living quarters (small apartment) for one of the staff members.

At present $12,533.00 is on hand for the work. That amount will not be sufficient to complete the entire building, but by careful planning and working, some surprising results may be achieved. (Anyone interested in adding to this fund may send in additional amounts. The Board will spend very carefully every cent designated for the project indicated.)

Krypton

The work at Krypton has grown appreciably during the past few years, and it will grow even more when Miss Lowery has more help; however, it is difficult to provide help for her, since there are no adequate quarters in which to house helpers. To relieve this situation, the Board has voted to build a small cement-block house near the one in which Miss Lowery is living for the use of additional workers.

Sarasota

With the encouraging reports that have been coming from Sarasota, and with their enthusiasm for a church, the Board is eager to proceed with a building as soon as such a move is feasible. At General Conference time last summer the Board voted and again in February reiterated its desire to proceed with the building of a church at Sarasota as soon as plans are approved and funds are available.

A Ten Dollar Club call was sent out in the fall, from which $5,530.00 was received. This is a fine beginning, but only a beginning. A number of members have not yet responded to this call; and even more is needed. Those of you who wish the Board would issue more Ten Dollar Club calls—and some have indicated this—please send us more than $10 any time. We will be glad to add your gifts to this fund. We are limited to making calls only when a new church is to be built, but you are not limited in the number of times or in the amount you may send to one call. Let us repeat: You may give to the Ten Dollar Club—any time and any amount, and WE'LL LOVE IT!

A Hammond Organ for Argentina

Since the work of radio evangelism has had such a gratifying reception in Argentina, and since music plays such an influential part in the programming, the Board voted to avail itself of the splendid opportunity offered by Mr. Harold Stacey, (a prominent business man with whom Rob works in radio) to purchase a Hammond organ. Mr. Stacey was able to obtain an import permit for shipping such an instrument (considered quite a luxury item) into Argentina, and agreed to let our Board have the permit; hence the Board has promised to use the permit in providing a Hammond organ that can be used both in broadcasting religious music and in the worship services in Buenos Aires.

A Parsonage at Newark

With the beginning of a mission work at Newark, Ohio, two years ago, the necessity of providing a house for the pastor became a considerable item of expense. Since rents are quite high in the city, making it necessary to pay $90.00 per month for a house within a reasonable distance from the church, the opportunity to buy a relatively new house, right next to the church, could not be disregarded. When the offer of such a property at 40 North 26th Street (beside the church) came, and at a reasonable price, the Missionary Board authorized the purchase of this house for a parsonage.

This was a wise investment, not only because of its proximity to the church, but because the monthly payments on the property amount to thirty dollars less than the rent that was being paid.

This semi-bungalow, containing four rooms and bath on one floor, is quite adequate for the present pastor; and if any pastor in the future requires additional space, the second floor can be used for supplementary space. It is located in a good section of the city. Owning this property for the pastor should give prestige to our work in the area.

WRITING TO THE BISCHOFS

Since Bob and Bea Bischof will be doing deputation work much of the time after March 1, please direct letters concerning deputation dates, requests for visits from them, etc. to our office:

THE MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

(Continued from Page 5)

navies will be rudely disorganized and disarmed. It will take at least one year for these unsaved ones left to get over their astonishment and fear of the loss they have had in the Godly people who have been taken away. But now in the second year of what is left, we can see them getting their armies together to begin again the same plan they had before Christ came: to make war for supremacy, and the victorious one would declare himself "EMPEROR OF THE WORLD." Have we not right now a great UNITED NATIONS? Toward what is it leading? To a One World Government? It would seem so. And so will it be after Christ comes!

Some have claimed that this rider is the Antichrist persecuting Christian people, the Tribulation Saints; **but this is in error, because it is expressly stated that "They should kill one another,"** and not Christians! (Rev. 6:4). (That this war will go on through the opening of the Third and also part of the Fourth Seals is evident, as will later be discussed.)

III. OPENING OF THE THIRD SEAL
(Or The Third Year of Tribulation)

Here we have a Black Horse, whose Rider has a pair of balances in his hand, denoting scarcity, and possible rationing, (of which we have learned much). A Voice is heard, which declares: "A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny, and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine" (Rev. 6:5-6). In the original (Greek) in which the New Testament was written, it reads: "A Chenix of wheat for a Denarius, and three chenices of barley for a Denarius; and the oil and the wine thou must not injure." A "Chenix" was a measure of about 1 quart, which sufficed for a man's daily nourishment, and a "Denarius" was a man's daily wage. That's working an entire day for 1 quart of wheat, or three quarts of barley. Think on that one! The balances denote scarcity, and the color of the horse represents hunger (See Lamentations 4:8-9).

IV. THE OPENING OF THE FOURTH SEAL
(Or the fourth year of tribulation)

The color of the horse in this vision is that of a corpse: livid, pale, the green pallor of death. And Death, personified, is the rider of this "pale" horse; and Hades, the Spiritual Prison of the Wicked dead, follows like a hearse after him, ready to grasp and retain his victims. "And there was given unto them authority over the fourth part of the earth, **to kill with the sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with beasts of the earth"** (Rev. 6:8).

In the middle of this, the fourth year, the Antichrist, called also "the Beast that came up out of the sea," will assert himself as Emperor of the World, and will rule this entire world, with his Capitol perhaps at Rome, because he will actually re-establish the old Roman World Empire, whose "dust" is now scattered all over the world. Just how much of that "dust" has blown into this country is easily seen! That world Empire was smitten on the feet shortly after Christ was crucified, and scattered over the world, yet as "the dust of summer threshing floors" still existing, and waiting to be swept together and reformed into an empire again. In the above quotation from Revelation 6:8, the last phrase showing how that people would be killed by "the beasts of the earth" will be only a repetition of what was a daily exhibition in the theatres of Rome, and other cities ruled by the Imperial Roman World Government, during the early days of the Church. We are told in Revelation 13:1-18 how this World Emperor will establish himself, **"rising up out of the sea having seven heads, and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.**

"These ten horns are explained in Daniel 7:24, and also in Revelation 17:12 to be ten kings or rulers, and the entire vision is of the last form of Gentile World Power, a confederated ten-kingdom empire covering the sphere of authority of ancient Rome. Revelation 13:1-3 refers to the ten-kingdom empire; and verses 4 to 10 refer to the Emperor, who is emphatically the Beast, who is known in Daniel 7:24-26 as the 'little horn,' and the 'desolator' of Daniel 9:27; the 'abomination of desolation' of Matthew 24:15; the 'man of sin' or 2 Thess. 2:4-8; earth's last and most awful tyrant, Satan's instrument of wrath and hatred against God and His followers. To him Satan gives the power he offered Christ" (Schofield).

He will have a false prophet with a Christ-denying church, to support and enforce his decisions. This false prophet will be Satanically empowered to perform miracles, making the Emperor's Image speak, as well as giving the same image life (Revelation 13:15). His following will be all those "whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life" (Rev. 13:8). His rule will be short, only 3½ years, from the middle of the 4th Seal until the end of the 7th Seal, when Jesus Christ, as KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS described in Revelation 19:11-16 arrives with His Bride, the Queen, to Judge the world in Righteousness. At this time the World Emperor and his false prophet will be bound and cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.

In making a summation of these four seals, Alford makes the following striking statement: "All four seals are judgments upon the earth; the beating down of earthly power, the breaking up of earthly peace, the exhausting of earthly wealth, and destruction of earthly life."

(To be continued in two weeks)

Cumberland, Maryland.

The Church a Liability or an Asset

Rev. C. A. Stewart

(A Meditation by Brother Stewart, Pastor of the Flora Indiana, Brethren Church, appearing first as an article in "The Hoosier Democrat," of Flora, in the column, "From a Pastor's Viewpoint.")

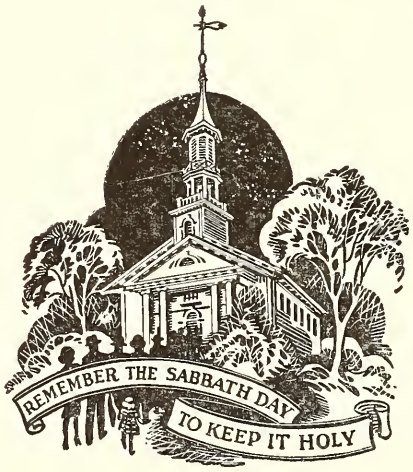
THE VALUE OF ANYTHING is judged by what it is able to accomplish. A manufacturing business is a worthless institution unless it can produce something of value to the public. We would not tolerate a school that did not and could not education our youth. We judge the value of the land by the crop it produces. Why not judge the church by the same standards?

Our civilization is second to none, and we are proud of it and should be. But where are the roots of it and from whence does it receive strength to survive? Make some comparisons and any intelligent person can readily see that where there are no churches there is little or no civilization.

The first thing our forefathers did when they came to this country was to establish the church. They had deep religious conviction which was expressed in every walk of life and was the foundation principle upon which our government was founded. That conviction instilled into the heart of our people has been the tap root of honesty, decency, and right living and thinking. It puts value into our property, gives protection to our homes and loved ones. Remove the church and values drop and security for our homes and loved ones is gone, and we have what communism wants and is seeking to force upon the entire world.

We are on the receiving end of the line for all good things and should appreciate it enough to support and nourish the one institution from whence comes all these good things we have.

Flora, Indiana.



Mechanics of Rightness

The right way is the only way, and the rightness of an attitude or method goes down through all its relations. Rightness in mechanics and in morals is basically the same thing. We make a great error in regarding "moral" as meaning "trying to be good." It means trying to be right.

Unless the parts of a machine are right, power cannot be delivered, service cannot be rendered. The only kind of precision that fits society together is moral precision, which is the science of right relations. We make no progress as long as we deny this. Our motive in this is not the attainment of some kind of goodness which is apart from life itself, but the attainment of inherent rightness so that this complex instrument which we call society may efficiently function.

Morality is the mechanics of rightness.—Henry Ford.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

of his western trip, at a recent meeting of the Crusader's Class of the Hagerstown Church.

The W. M. S. Mission Study Book Review was held recently. Those participating in the program were dressed in the native costumes of the country where the missionary they were reviewing had served.

The Laymen's Annual Father and Son Banquet was held the evening of February 13.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. March is being observed as a Month of Evangelism, and will conclude with a week of special services conducted by Brother J. Ray Klingensmith, of our Washington, D. C. Church.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. Brother Ralph E. Mills reports the addition of three new members by baptism recently.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Brother John T. Byler notes, "In a short time we hope to see actual excavation and construction on our new building."

NEWARK, OHIO. "Know Your Churches," a radio program sponsored by the Interfaith Department of the Newark Area Council of Churches, featured the Newark Brethren Church in a half hour broadcast on February 26th. Pastor W. S. Crick conducted a panel discussion in which he was assisted by Brethren Ray C. Aspinall, of our Glenford Church and Kenneth W. Hollinger of Ziontown Church of the Brethren.

"Family Night" was observed by Newark Brethren on February 24th.

MANSFIELD, OHIO. Mansfield Brethren was host to a capacity attendance at the Northeastern Ohio Brethren Youth Rally held the afternoon and evening of February 19th.

FREMONT, OHIO. Congratulations to Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Solomon, in the arrival of Timothy Lee Solomon, 6 lbs., 5 oz., on February 18th, at Samaritan Hospital, Ashland, Ohio.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. We note that the Pleasant Hill Church is in the midst of a remodelling program.

The B. Y. C. met February 16th and helped to clean the pulpit furniture. Following a supper prepared by the mothers, the group spent their time making posters to be placed in local business houses announcing the Pleasant Hill Revival Services.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Canton's recent cash day brought in an offering of $825.19.

NORTH GEORGETOWN, OHIO. Phil and Jean Lersch were guests of the North Georgetown Brethren on February 26th, at which time they told the story and showed pictures of their work in Europe this past summer.

Ordination Services for new deacons and deaconesses will be held on March 4th, with Dean Delbert B. Flora, of Ashland Theological Seminary, assisting in the service and bringing the morning message. In the evening, Brother Flora will present Holy Land pictures pertaining to the Easter story.

Brother Donald Rowser notes the purchase of a new film strip and slide projector by the organizations of the church. It was dedicated and first used the evening of January 22nd.

ELKHART, INDIANA. The Gideons are scheduled to conduct the morning service on March 4th, with the Laymen presenting their public service in the evening.

On March 11th, Dean Delbert B. Flora, of Ashland Theological Seminary will speak at the morning service, and present slides of the Holy Land at the evening service.

Four new members were received by baptism on February 5th.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother C. C. Grisso was the guest speaker at a recent Wednesday evening service.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Brother Spencer Gentle notes that their evening church attendance has been averaging well over 100 since November 1st.

Eleven new members were received into the church recently; 10 by baptism and one by letter.

We note by the Goshen bulletin that Dr. W. I. Duker is on the road to recovery; he being able to attend services in the Goshen church on February 12th.

HOWE, INDIANA. BRIGHTON BRETHREN. Brother Smith F. Rose has been given a call to serve as pastor for another year.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. The Martin Luther film is scheduled for the South Bend church on March 11th, a project of the Laymen's Organization.

FLORA, INDIANA. Four new members were baptized and received into the church on February 5th.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. Five new members were received recently.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING. A card to the Editor from Brother Frank W. Garber, notes that Brother Garber returned home from the hospital on February 11. He was in the hospital for 11 days. He says, "I took my first car ride yesterday (Feb. 20th) and feel fairly well. I want to thank all for their indulgence in prayer for me. Prayer changes things. God bless you all."

Brother Garber also notes that the night before going to the hospital he baptized a man and wife, a young father and two children, making a total of nine received recently into the Cheyenne Church.

MANTECA, CALIFORNIA. Dr. Claud Studebaker of our Loree, Indiana, Church was the speaker at the organizational meeting of the Northern California District Laymen, held in the Manteca Church the evening of February 17th.

"OPINION"

H. A. Gossard

WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER?

SOMEONE SAID, "Religiously one can be too formal to be fundamental in observing set patterns." I agree insofar as man-set patterns are involved; but when God sets patterns, I do not agree that they in the least degree should be unobserved. I have no desire to enter into an argument on the question; but I am ready to prove by scripture there is no ground to evade any God-set pattern; for if He set it, He set it for us to observe, whether we fully understand the reason for it or not.

When scripture sets forth an obligation it defends it against any refusal without any explanation. Jesus washed His disciples' feet, and said in doing it that He gave the "Example" that we should follow. Peter refused to have Jesus wash his feet; but Jesus said "If I wash you not you have no part with me." Then Peter consented, even not knowing why Jesus did it . . . Jesus said "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter." When that hereafter will be nobody knows; it might be some time upon this earth, or at the Judgment.

Everything God asks of us is for a great purpose; and no person is wise enough to offer an excuse for refusal. God requires of us nothing for which he will not amply reward us if we obey His command. If we were to fully know why for everything before doing, we would never learn many of the necessary acts of life.

Some of the most essential requirements God makes of us, we know little of the deep purpose God has in them for our welfare. The essential thing for us is to humbly obey and trust God for the reward later. I believe one of the most blessed surprises will be rewards for things we did that God asked of us, though we did not know why God asked them. That song, "Trust And Obey," is good advice for us to consider. The person who must know God's reason for certain requirements before yielding to His will, will seldom come to "the knowledge of the truth." We learn God's Way by walking in it; for it's the road to God's School.

Not long ago a person, not a member of the church to which I belong, asked me "Why does Jesus require that we go to church to wash feet, since it's but a matter of cleansing the feet?" saying further, "We do that at home in a more sanitary way." I said, "Sir, I have little confidence in my answer being accepted by you; but if you will answer my question I think you will have the answer to your questions. He asked "What's your question?" Do you always know the reason and the result for everything you do before doing it? He said "No, but I oft do things hoping for results of importance to follow." I replied, that is the attitude one should take in things God requires of us. He said, "That is true; but I think God should give a reason for things He asks of us, then we would comply more willingly." I said that's the human attitude because of impugnity; man too often mistrusts God's wisdom and acts as though he knows more than God. Jesus told Peter and the rest of the apostles while washing their feet, that they would know why He did it hereafter. It's our duty to obey and let the unknown blessing follow. Why should we be paid before having served? (!) He asked no further explanation, but with a look of conviction upon his countenance he said nothing and walked slowly away. When one questions God's wisdom in His requirements of us, he or she has no answer to their own question.

Our Poet's Corner

INFINITE

Man's ingenuity has changed the entire world;
Its boundaries, its speech, its secrets lie revealed;
Man's power circles the vast regions of the globe
And yet, God's eternal knowledge is still sealed.

Man has not fathomed the elemental truths,
Life and love and birth and death are mysteries still;
We are but puppets acting on a scenic stage,
Mere actors moved and controlled by God's great will.

Man has not rent the veil that holds the singing stars,
Though silver wings have long since found the speed of light.
The sun still shines and rules the universe by day,
And Luna's chariot still dominates the night.

Man has not yet learned to control the elements,
Nor caused the sea to leave its deep hewn, rocky bed,
Nor found the spark called life that makes men live and breathe,
Nor given breath of life to those we know as dead.

Who knows how soon or yet how far the hour may be
When God's own Son shall come to brush the darkened glass,
And we who live in Him shall understand and see
Not earthly things—but heavenly glory come to pass?

Elizabeth L. Sargent.

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

February 11 to February 21

Previous total	$2,689.13
North Georgetown Brethren, N. Georgetown, O.	47.60
Brush Valley Brethren, Adrian, Pa.	6.00
Carleton Brethren, Carleton, Nebraska	6.50
Valley Brethren, Jones Mills, Pa.	15.00
Smithville Brethren, Smithville, Ohio	280.00
Hazel Keiser, Bryan, Ohio	1.50
Anonymous	10.00
Calvary Brethren, Pittstown, N. J.	8.00
Roann Brethren, Roann, Indiana	28.88
Teegarden Brethren, Teegarden, Indiana	29.00
Mrs. Mahlon W. Werner, Meyersdale, Pa.	3.00
Meyersdale Brethren, Meyersdale, Pa.	100.00
Warsaw Brethren, Warsaw, Indiana	94.40
Total to Feb. 21st	$3,319.01

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

POSSESSIONS

Matt. 6:20

Let me hold lightly
Things of this earth;
Transient treasures,
What are they worth?
Moths can corrupt them,
Rust can decay;
All their bright beauty
Fades in a day.
Let me hold lightly
Temporal things—
I, who am deathless,
I, who wear wings!
Let me hold fast, Lord
Things of the skies,
Quicken my vision,
Open my eyes!
Show me Thy riches,
Glory and grace,
Boundless as time is,
Endless as space . . .
Let me hold lightly
Things that were mine—
Lord, Thou dost give me
All that is Thine!

—Martha Snell Nicholson.

PHYSICALLY, we are occupied with this world; spiritually, with this world and the next (Luke 19:13). In building a life that will never cease we do not want to short ourselves (Luke 14:18-20). If we are mindful only of earthly treasures we are bankrupt for eternity (Matt. 16:26). In accumulating on earth we need to keep in mind our limited stay here (Heb. 13:14), that life is but a vapor (James 4:14; 1:10, 11), and that this present world is not friendly to the God of our salvation (1 John 2:13-17; James 4:4).

"It is not what we earn that makes us rich
As riches are really known,
But how honest we are as we lay our hand
On what we call our own.

It is not what we keep that gives us peace
In an age when peace is rare,
But how truthful we are as we lay aside
Our own and the Master's share.

—Church Chimes.

We are stewards and not owners (1 Chron. 29:14-16; Deut. 8:18; Hag. 2:8; Eccles. 5:19). Stewards have to give an accounting of their stewardship (Luke 16:2). It is for our good to give or God would not have commanded that we be givers (1 Tim. 6:17-19; Heb. 13:16; 2 Cor. 8:7). Christ gave us an example in giving (2 Cor. 8:9). We, in turn, are to be an example to others in giving (2 Cor. 9:2). The grace of giving is for the reflex influence that it has upon our own selves (Prov. 11:25; Isaiah 58:10, 11; Mal. 3:10). It is not to give unless it really costs us something (2 Sam. 24:24). We are to labor so that we may have something to give (Acts 20:35; Eph. 4:28). We are to give as we are prospered (1 Cor. 16:2; Deut. 16:10, 11). We are to give when we appear before the Lord (Deut. 16:16).

Some of the heavenly treasures are the prepared mansions (John 14:1-3), eternal life (John 6:27), a crown of glory (1 Peter 5:4), the sonship of God and likeness of Christ (1 John 3:2), joint heirship with Christ (Rom. 8:16-18), the loved ones in Jesus gone before and the souls we have won for Him (1 Thess. 2:19, 20).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for March 11, 1956

JESUS INTERPRETS HISTORY

Lesson: Luke 21:29-36

THE LOST DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH! This would be an appropriate title for the subject of the **Second Coming of Jesus Christ.** Seldom is it taught or preached in our churches today. How tragic! Especially so when we see the prominent place it has in the Word of God, and in the teachings of our Lord. It would behoove us to get back to teaching what's in The Book!

In His teaching ministry Christ dealt with the **past.** the **present,** and the **future.** He spake often of the **past** with reference to the Old Testament Prophets and their ministry. He was continually reminding His followers of their **present** duties and responsibilities to God and their fellowmen. And He instilled hope within the hearts of the faithful by referring to the **future** glories that awaited them.

In Luke 21, which is our lesson text, Jesus endeavored to interpret for His disciples the future events of history which were to take place. Some of these events have already been fulfilled, such as the destruction of the temple and the Holy City of Jerusalem. Some are being fulfilled before our very eyes. Some, however, cannot be explained in the light of history, and are yet to be fulfilled—perhaps in our day!

Jesus told His followers that definite, clear-cut signs would precede His Coming:

1. **Signs in the Earth**—"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring" (vs. 25).

2. **Signs in Men**—"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on

he earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" vs. 26).

3. **Signs in Israel**—"Behold the fig tree, and all the rees; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of our own selves that summer is now nigh at hand" (vs. 9-30).

Christ said all this would come to pass with certainty, nd then He would appear the second time, for "Heaven nd earth shall pass away: but My words shall not pass way."

Because He was coming back, our Lord gave emphatic nstruction as to the conduct of His people. He said to hem (and to us):

1. I am coming back, therefore, take heed to yourelves, lest your hearts be so loaded down with selfndulgence, and drunkenness, and worldly worries, that e will not be prepared when I do come (vs. 34).

2. I am coming back, therefore, ever watch and alvays pray, so that ye may be counted worthy, by My Heavenly Father, to escape the terrible judgment that hall fall upon the ungodly (vs. 36).

"Jesus is coming to earth again, What if it were today?
Coming in power and love to reign, What if it were today?
Coming to claim His chosen Bride, all the redeemed and and purified,
Over this whole earth scattered wide, What if it were today?"

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is coming again! Therefore, in the light of this important fact, let us WATCH! WAIT! WORK!

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

LOOKING AHEAD

T IS NOT TOO EARLY for us to start thinking about our plans for General Conference in August. To some of you in the local churches this night seem like rushing the season, sort of like putting Santa Claus in the window in October (I've seen that happen, too!) But I am not thinking of it in that sense. It won't take you until August to make up your mind as to whether or not you will attend Conference, and if you know now that you will attend, probably you can raise the "wherewithal" before these six months become history.

SITUATION ABNORMAL

As I begin to think about tying together some loose ends here and there for General Conference, I find it necessary to call to mind various incidents and happenings during the last Conference. I believe that you will agree with me that our General Conference is the climax of the entire church year. It **should** be the **spiritual climax,** as well as the social climax, the time when good Brethren get together to fellowship, to attend inspirational services, and to take part in the business sessions and presentations of various boards. Individuals who attend Conference ought to go away with a desire to linger a while longer, as many do have that desire each year.

But there are some things which need to be thought about; things which are not so pleasant to the Christians who like to have mountain-top experiences. Fortunately, these things are relatively few in number. Nevertheless, they must be mentioned and discussed among sincere groups of believers. I do not desire to offend anyone, therefore I approach this matter with caution.

You adults know that there is a great deal of time spent each year in preparing the Brethren Youth Conference. You know, too, that many youth make sacrifices to take part in the sessions, and some put themselves out a lot just to attend, perhaps only for a day or two. You know that the lives of young people are easily influenced, and affected a great deal by what we sometimes think of as "small" things. You know that mass psychology holds sway over any group, and especially over youth.

For a couple of years now, at least, we have been quite concerned with the attitudes of some of our youth at Conference. There seems to be a shift in the thinking of some of our people—both youth and adults—as to the purpose and meaning of youth conference. One or two disorderly youth can, and often do, change the entire atmosphere of a gathering of two hundred young people. Even though the majority has always been opposed to certain behavior of irresponsible persons, the majority is affected seriously by the minority. If Junior either decides for himself that he will attend the youth conference which has been laboriously prepared for his edification, only for the purpose of having a hilarious time, he can do much damage; or if he is "sent" in hopes that "they can do something for him up there," he probably will rebell against the rules and standards of the conference and make a general nuisance of himself. If Susie (the name is selected only as a representative

(Continued on Page 15)

WHITE GIFT OFFERING

1955-56

New Lebanon, Ohio	$ 270.00
Denver, Ind.	41.19
Loree, Ind.	50.00
North Georgetown, Ohio	70.50
Gretna, Ohio	153.00
Carleton, Neb.	34.00
New Paris, Ind.	174.82
Gatewood, W. Va.	4.00
Goshen, Ind.	467.66
Calvary, N. J.	10.00
Tiosa, Ind.	51.00
College Corner, Ind.	58.58
Sarasota, Fla.	10.00
Dutchtown, Ind.	25.00
County Line, Ind.	32.80
Fairhaven, Ohio	56.74
Fremont, Ohio	19.15
Milford, Ind.	66.39
Burlington, Ind.	61.80
St. James, Md.	61.00
Wayne Heights, Pa.	109.61
Glenford, Ohio	25.00
Pleasant Hill, Ohio	37.44
Cameron, W. Va.	40.00
Flora, Ind.	125.00
Roanoke, Ind.	40.00
Roann, Ind.	67.20
North Liberty, Ind.	85.00
Smithville, Ohio	577.00
Akron, Ohio	34.80
Pittsburgh, Pa.	114.00
Mexico, Ind.	75.50
Maurertown, Va.	43.24
Johnstown, First	74.00
Mulvane, Kan.	47.20
Udell, Iowa	22.43
Brush Valley, Pa.	13.00
Brighton Chapel, Ind.	45.00
Mt. Olive, Va.	61.40
Quiet Dell, Pa.	33.00
Teegarden, Ind.	80.00
Hagerstown, Md.	116.34
Conemaugh, Pa.	81.00
Bryan, Ohio	324.11
South Bend, Ind.	300.00
Mt. Olivet, Del.	23.00
Garber Memorial Church (Ashland)	5.00
Johnstown, Second	92.00
Oak Hill, W. Va.	41.00
Mansfield, Ohio	16.00
Masontown, Pa.	130.10
Jones Mills, Pa.	28.55
Corinth, Ind.	62.81
Cumberland, Md.	27.98
North Manchester, Ind.	216.56
Nappanee, Ind.	300.00
Muncie, Ind.	209.14
Tucson, Arizona	83.56
Lanark, Ill.	164.85
Milledgeville, Ill.	388.00
Center Chapel, Ind.	63.48
Manteca, Calif.	18.00
Lost Creek, Ky.	18.66
Leon, Iowa	15.00
Huntington, Ind.	10.00
Sergeantsville, N. J.	33.50
Oakville, Ind.	45.59
Meyersdale, Pa.	67.50
Berlin, Pa.	412.25
Vinco, Pa.	310.05
Morrill, Kan.	14.00
Terra Alta, W. Va.	119.00
Pleasant View, Pa.	37.35
Highland, Pa.	21.00
Canton, Ohio	102.00
Peru, Ind.	30.00
Warsaw, Ind.	154.05
Louisville, Ohio	151.96
Gratis, Ohio	37.00
Williamstown, Ohio	50.87
West Alexandria, Ohio	32.61
Johnstown Third	145.65
Ardmore, Ind.	111.00
Dayton, Ohio	250.00
Flora W. M. S.	15.00
Glenford W. M. S.	10.00
Individual Gifts (No church mentioned)	39.00
Elkhart, Ind. (Three Quarterly Payments)	413.87
Goshen, Ind. (One Quarterly Payment)	52.28
Total White Gift Offering	$8,815.82
Gifts from same sources last year	$7,463.88
Gifts from same sources 1954	$6,828.65

Henry Bates, Treasurer.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

CAN YOU SEE THE STARS?

"I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11.

A GIRL WHO HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP in luxury met with reverses, and was compelled to find employment. While she had been reared in the lap of luxury she had not been allowed to live in idleness, and so her situation brought her to entering the teaching profession. And so it was that a friend found her engaged at her chosen task in a small prairie town. Thinking to commisserate her on the seeming incongruity of her situation the friend exclaimed, "It's dreadful you're being here. How can you endure this dull work and this ugly town?" "Oh," the teacher replied, "I like my work and I have many friends here." Then after a brief pause she added, "You've no idea how beautiful the winter sky is above this treeless prairie. There is nothing to hide the stars."

That young woman had learned the secret which Paul had learned, as set forth in the text of our study. She was possessed of inner resources, which enabled her to rise above her circumstances; to forget the things which she had once possessed, and to find her satisfaction in the place in which her lot was cast.

Too many people, when they are cast into adverse circumstances and conditions, can see no pleasant or attractive surrounding or incident in life for them in any view or opinion they are able to grasp. Paul had a "thorn in the flesh," and yet he could assert that even when his prayer to be relieved of the burden was not answered as he desired, he could declare that he was therein content. His assurance lay in the divine promise "My grace is sufficient for thee," and that same promise is vouchsafed to us today. Contentment is not to be found in having our circumstances adjusted to our likings and wishes, but in "looking up." It is said that if one descends into a well that is deep enough one can look up and see the stars even when the sun may be shining brightly. So, even when we may seem to have been driven to the depths of dense darkness and despair, one can still look up and see the star of hope which is illumined by the promise "My grace is sufficient for thee," and so find satisfaction and peace.

YOUTH CRUSADERS

(Continued from Page 13)

name) decides that she will flirt with some Ashland boys, or detract the attention of Billy (same reason), she, too, can turn upside down a section of the conference.

There has been some property damage—enough to call to the attention of the youth and his parents. We just want to warn you that, starting this year, more drastic measures will be taken to settle such matters. Perhaps one way will be to submit the signature of the youth delegate to an agreement to pay all damages for which he is responsible. The Youth Board has authorized the printing of delegate credentials which will have to be signed by the pastor, parent, and church official, in agreement to a pledge before being accepted on the conference grounds. This will include a delegate fee which heretofore has been collected "when we catch" the delegate.

WHAT CONFERENCE IS—NOT

General Conference is not a glorified nursery, or a mass baby sitting offer for youth whose parents either have not controlled, or find it difficult to control them. Brethren Youth simply cannot afford to jeopardize its program in the face of such problems. It is much more difficult to attempt to control a wayward youth in a large gathering than at home, or in the local church. We are asking that the local church—and parents—keep in mind the affect that such youth will have on others when they send them to conference.

SMOKING is not only discouraged, but must be prohibited.

DRINKING is unforgivable.

BAD LANGUAGE cannot be tolerated.

PROPERTY MUST BE PROTECTED.

As you "talk up" conference this year, "talk up" the **kind** of conference which we wish to keep, year after year. If a youth cannot be controlled at home, then he must be discouraged from attending conference. He might even find that there will be no facilities for him upon arrival. Remember what we say: BRETHREN YOUTH MUST "DIG IN" SPIRITUALLY!

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

THE CHRISTIAN GRACE OF GIVING

"Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God which hath been given in the churches of Macedonia; how that in much proof of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto riches of their liberality. For according to their power, they gave of their own accord, beseeching us with much entreaty in regard of this grace and the fellowship in the ministering to the saints." II Corinthians 8:1-4.

ONE OF THE CHRISTIAN GRACES most often neglected is the giving of our money according to our power. The Christians of the Macedonian churches gave even beyond their power: as did the widow who cast all her living into the temple treasury. These early Christians were well known for their deep poverty but they became rich toward God by their giving.

One of our goals in the W. M. S. is "definite tithing instruction presented." One of our members has made the remark many times that 10% is the Lord's money, and our offering to the Lord's work should go beyond the tithe.

Jesus is not only watching us in our giving; He weighs our gifts in the balance of God and puts its value on it for the blessing that it is to bring us in eternity. The giving of our money is watched over by Christ and must be regulated by His word.

Even more than this; the way to spend the rest of our money is a sure test of our Christian character as Jesus teaches us in the parable of the talents. Every loving gift to God strengthens our faith and our love.

It is also a blessed privilege to give to the poor and needy brethren as the Macedonians did. The money we giv away is a source of greater pleasure than that which we spend on ourselves.

Miss Zola E. Saum,
Udell, Iowa.

IF ANYBODY says that a Christian is a man from whose life the possibility of sin has been eradicated I cannot agree with him, nor do I believe that such a doctrine is to be found anywhere in God's Word. No, the possibility of sin is with us; we live in the body of sin, and we will be with it until we die. But also within us is a mightier power: the Spirit of Christ Himself, overcoming the power of the flesh. Therefore God asks me His child, and each one of us, to step into the audience chamber of the King of kings and yield to the knife for the pruning. "Every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it," says the Lord Jesus, "that it may bring forth more fruit" (John 15:2).—Alan Redpath, in **Victorious Christian Living**, (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

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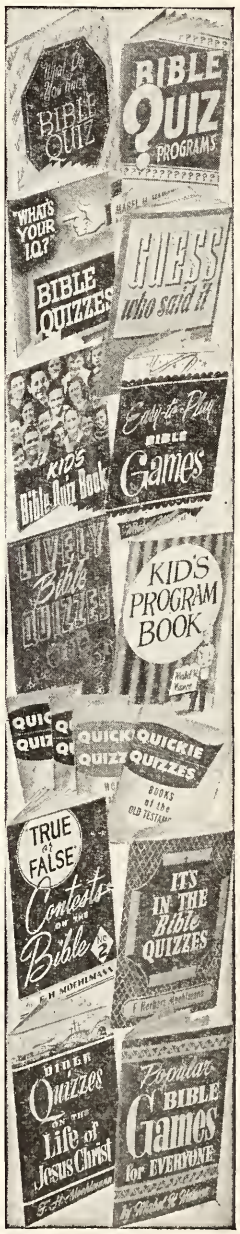

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Items of General Interest

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. Dr. Walter C. Davis, retired Superintendent, Johnstown City Schools, was guest speaker in the Third Church the morning of February 26th.

The film, "Martin Luther," was shown the evening of the 26th.

The Father and Son banquet was held the evening of February 27th.

Professor Edwin E. Boardman, of Ashland Theological Seminary, was guest speaker at both services on March 4th.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. The month of March has been set aside as "Church Attendance Month," under the slogan, "March to Church in March."

CAMERON, W. VA.—QUIET DELL, PENNA. During the illness of the pastor, Brother Cecil Bolton, Jr., visiting ministers have been taking care of the preaching services. Messages were brought on February 19th by Rev. Earl Slayton of the First Methodist Church in Cameron and on February 26th by Rev. Barney Stephens of the First Christian Church. Carl Sands has been in charge of the services.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. "The Harmonettes," a sextette from Rittman High School, furnished special music in a recent worship service in the Smithville Church.

Phil and Jean Lersch, of Ashland, are the scheduled speakers on March 11th. They will show pictures and tell of their work in a Brethren Service Camp in Europe last summer.

We note that Brother Robert Hoffman began his fourth year of service with the Smithville Brethren the last of February.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Brother L. V. King had the experience recently of baptising a boy, the boy's father, his great uncle, and his great-great uncle, ranging in ages from 8 to 81 years. Also another boy, who will be 8 in May, and who is now the youngest member of the Louisville Church.

ASHLAND, OHIO, PARK STREET BRETHREN. The Junior Choir, under the direction of Betty Rowsey Isenhart, celebrated its second anniversary with a special service on February 26th. The Choir was started two years ago with nineteen children present, ranging in ages from five to fourteen. At the present time, the choir still averages nineteen at rehearsals. Fifteen of the original voices are still in the Choir, and these were honored with the presentation of two year award pins.

(Continued on Page 15)

COMING EVENTS

BERLIN, PENNSYLVANIA. Evangelistic Services—March 18-25—Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, Evangelist, Rev. Lyle I. Lichtenberger, Pastor.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Spring Revival—March 12-25—Rev. Ivan Sisk, Dayton YFC Director, Evangelist; Rev. John T. Byler, Pastor.

AKRON, INDIANA. Spiritual Emphasis Week—March 18-25—Rev. Clarence S. Fairbanks, Speaker; Rev. Ralph McFadden, Pastor.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Lenten Services—March 11-16—Rev. Virgil E. Meyer, Speaker; Rev. H. Francis Berkshire, Pastor.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin, Governor of Maryland, Special Speaker—Sunday evening, March 18th—Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Pastor.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. Revival Services—Beginning March 11th. Rev. J. Milton Bowman, Pastor.

BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY

MASONTOWN BRETHREN CHURCH

Masontown, Pennsylvania

March 11th—7:30 P. M.

This Rally is for all young people of the Pennsylvania Churches. A fine, inspirational program has been planned, as well as food and fun.

Please let Mr. Charles Berkshire, Masontown, Penna., know how many plan to attend this rally.

Ida S. Kimmel.

The Editor's Pulpit

A Call To Service

WHEN WE HAVE BEEN TO CHURCH, we go away with mingled thoughts in our minds. We are either left uninspired, or we are lifted up to higher planes of Christian living and service. Our leaving the church after the services should be as great a thrill, or greater, than our approach to the services, because of the blessings received.

The Psalmist said, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go unto the house of the Lord." What joy, what happiness centered in the heart of the Psalmist as he anticipated the songs, the prayers, the messages of the temple worship. What supreme happiness should fill our souls, as we too, anticipate our attendance at our church's services. Much has been written about the preparation of our hearts and minds for the church services. But what about conditioning ourselves to the hours, and days, which follow the services?

As we leave the services, as the doors of the church close behind us, what are our thoughts, our meditations? They can center in several things:

First, On what we have heard. Did we hear the Lord speaking to our hearts? Did the music, the worship, the message, speak directly to our hearts? Did we permit the Holy Spirit to speak to our soul in such a way that the problems of life and the burdens became easier. Was sin reckoned with and removed through our recommitment to our faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of the Living God and the Saviour of our soul?

Second, On the Challenge, or lack of it, in the service. Every hour of worship should have its challenge. Perhaps even from the most unlikely service will come a challenge to some person to forsake sin, to dedicate his or her life to full time Christian service. A half-frozen young man, many years ago stopped in a country church one Sunday evening to get warm. He and the minister, because of the storm, were the only ones present. Yet out of that service came the young man, having heard the gospel of Christ, having given himself to Christ, to become one of the world's greatest evangelists of a generation ago. Are our hearts open to the challenge of Christian service?

Third, On plans for the rest of the day. How eagerly we should look forward to attending the services in the house of the Lord. How we should not wish to rush away as soon as the Amen is sounded. Is there not much advantage in post-service fellowship of the members, and visitors? That is, not to talk about all the happenings of the past week, nor to discuss the plans of the new week, necessarily, BUT, rather to talk one with another about the refreshing blessings showered upon us by the Holy Spirit in the services.

So, after the service we leave. To a new week we go. To new trials, to new victories. Yes, it is joyous to know as we leave the services that we have the full assurance of the words, "He walks beside me in the way, What a wonderful Saviour." Joy and peace and enthusiasm should show on our faces, coupled with a gravity of the seriousness of our responsibilities as the gospel witnesses to our fellowmen. Joy should show because we have a God who never fails. Concern should show because of the lost condition of so many around us. Then, with joy in our hearts and concern in our soul, we should go forth resolved to live true to Him and to be a faithful witness for Him every hour of the day.

Yes, it is a joy to go to Church. It is a privilege we enjoy in this land of ours. It is also a joy to go forth, filled with the Spirit of God to take our place beside the great host of witnesses which our Lord has for Him this day in this world of sin. W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

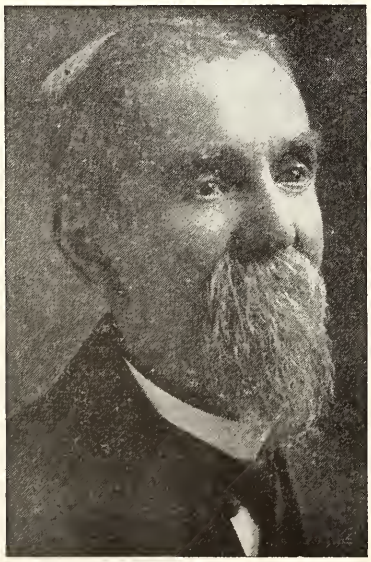
by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

ALEX MACK, *the Merchant*

THE THIRD CHILD, there had been a daughter and a son, to be born to Rev. Jacob Mack, on Brown's Run, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, was born on March 18, 1834. He was given the old family name of Alexander. However, all the years of his long life, his name was shortened by those who knew him, to Alex, and Alex he became to the numerous folk who came to know him over a long span of life. Two children were yet to be born, a sister and a brother, later making the family of Elder Jacob Mack consist of five children.

The old house is still standing, though remodeled from time to time. The old mill, operated by Elder Jacob Mack, has gone the way of many things. It was damaged by flood waters in 1889, and was never rebuilt. This year is still spoken of as "the year of the Johnstown flood."

Young Alex's grandfather, also named Jacob had emigrated to Licking County, Ohio before the birth of Alex. Alex's father, Jacob, moved into the Mill property and took over the operation of the Mill. The move to Ohio was some time before the birth of the subject of this article. Even though distance separated them, correspondence was always kept up between the Ohio and the Pennsylvania kin. The line of Alex Mack's ancestry was, Alexander Mack, Alexander Mack, Jr., William Mack, Jacob Mack, Jacob Mack and Alexander of the article.



ALEX MACK
of Masontown

Elder Jacob's wife was formerly Catherine Longanecker, a family name very prominent in that section of the state. It may be stated in this connection, that her health failing, she died in 1855 and is buried in the Fairview Church of the Brethren Cemetery near by the Church just south of Masontown.

It would seem that the first trade given consideration, and the Macks believed in work, was that of Miller. So young Alex shuffled the grain sacks around, lubricated the bearings in need, watched the water levels, and generally made himself handy around the mill on the Run.

Wrestling heavy sacks must have been a discouraging job for the small lad, for he was never robust. During his entire life he never weighed over 135 pounds. He was not content to spend his life within sound of the whirling mill stones, but aspired to something different. In an old communication he states, "I was born on Brown's Run, a mile from Masontown, March 18, 1834; my parents were Jacob Mack, a Dunkard Preacher, and Catherine Longanecker. In my youth I learned the miller's trade and ground wheat and corn." He states that as a boy he learned to chew tobacco, but when he went before the County Superintendent, Joshua V. Gibbons, to take the examination to teach school he advised the applicants to abstain from tobacco. "I quit chewing and haven't used tobacco since." Not so much was demanded in those days, and his preparation was sufficient for him to be granted a certificate. His first term of school was taught across the Monongahela River in Greene County, starting when Alex was 22 years of age, in 1856.

For twelve terms we find him in the school room, practically all spent in and around Masontown. He had as many as 66 pupils in one room. In 1865 we find him leaving the school room. This was the closing period of the Civil War. He entered another line of work. He had received for his highest salary the sum of $28.00 per month. Country school teachers, apparently there was a difference in pay, received from $18.00 to $20.00 per month. He says, "I taught everything from Algebra to Engineering." He must have taught a good school or schools, for

he was able to conduct them without corporal punishment, so common in those days.

While he was teaching, he married Elmira Josephine Albaugh, March 27, 1862. Rev. James P. Baird, a Cumberland Presbyterian Minister officiated at the ceremony at the home of the bride in Masontown.

In 1865 he started business in Masontown as a Merchant, on the northwest corner of Main and West Church streets. When he started it is unlikely that the streets were named, as the place was just a small village, not too long before known as Germantown. There was but one other store beside the one owned by Mack, and Provins, his partner. After two years, Alex bought out his partner and conducted the store under his own name and in his own way. The building though changed some is still being used for a store. It is now occupied by The Fair Store, owned and run by Mr. Harry Kaplan. The writer for nearly nine years, while Pastor of the Masontown Brethren Church, lived within two blocks of this corner and seldom passed without a thought of the little man long passed on, who operated his store for fifty years on that location.

Only a couple newspapers were received in Masontown in those early days and people gathered in the stores to hear the news of the War, which was uppermost in all conversations. Alex Mack's home was in the next block south from the store, and every morning about four, at the latest, early risers would see him wending his way to the store building. Here by the light of flickering candles he would get things ready for the day. He said that this was a good time to get things done. Later on his store had an additional attraction when he purchased a brass kerosene lamp. The first telephone was also installed in his store. The store was usually kept open until nine at night, thereby bringing to an end a long day. He told how he bought butter and eggs in large amounts, taking them in trade from his customers. There was little market for them and so he often paid as much as five cents a dozen for them and sold them for three. One time he could not even sell them for that so he lugged 80 dozen to the back yard, and after digging a hole buried them there. He stated one time, "I've sold everything from needles to a grist mill."

We are including with this article a picture of the store taken about the year 1905. Charles A. Provance, of Masontown clerked for him for sixteen years. In front of the store may be seen Charles, the tall clerk with the little short proprietor and owner standing just below him. One of the others in the picture who can be identified is Jacob DeBolt, standing by the pole. Charles Provance, now in his early eighties has often regaled the writer with stories of Alex Mack whom he knew so well and intimately. Jacob DeBolt also lives in Masontown, and he and the former clerk are faithful members of the Masontown Brethren Church. Numerous people have spoken to the writer of the enjoyment of going to Alex Mack's store in days now long past. There were always little things for the kiddies, candy or something attractive to them. The blended aroma of spices of the old country store is not to be soon forgotten. He advertised himself as "Alex Mack, Dealer in Yankee Notions." When Ohio relatives went for their frequent visits back to Masontown, they usually returned with some of his unique advertisements, on plates or various objects.

Alex Mack was one who in his younger days could wield a vitriolic pen. Those days were the days when the country was torn apart by the strife and dissention which precipitated the Civil War. The writer had access to one of his old letters written to his cousin, Jonas Leckrone, at Brownsville, Ohio, August 1, 1861. It is written in a bold hand with numerous flourishes. In it he speaks of the work of the Church, the season, Abolitionists and the high price of goods. We quote from sections, as the letter is too long to give in its entirety in this article: " . . . **The relations here are as well as common except Pa; he has not been able to do much for some time, in consequences of a pain in his back; he still goes about but not much more. Mary Longanecker & I went to Uncle 'Jo' Mosers last Saturday and to Meeting at the Grove on Sunday; also at singing school**

ALEX MACK'S STORE

Masontown, Penna.

at 3 o'clock at the same place. The new Church is weather-boarded & ready to cover—the shingles are there. It will be much nicer than Fairview. It will be done early in October, by the time you'll be here." The Grove Church, is no longer standing but the Fairview Church, of which Elder Jacob Mack was Pastor, still holds forth on the hill south of Masontown. Rev. Albert Haught, has been Pastor for a number of years, and is still Pastor.

As to Politics, Alex Mack was a rabid Democrat, and a passage from the same letter to his cousin Jonas Leckrone does not mince words. " . . . I believe that there is no other evil more fully stamped with black damnation than Abolitionism couched under the name of Republicanism. I would love to see Aunt Agnes & her sister together to talk the subject over, but I have little hope that it would do good for they (The Abolitionists) are as devoid of reason as a Blackbird is white, or as sugar is of salt." . . . "We finished harvesting here yesterday & depend it made me tired. Wheat is very low oats will not bring more than 10cs in cash & even at that I cant tell who would buy more than 50 bushels. In our district last summer for congress the fight was on Tariff. High Tariff on iron & then the good times will come; Now they have raised the Tariff on every thing a poor man wants and lored it to $2 per tun on iron So we have GOOD TIMES with a vengeance. Coffee is 25cts a lb. & that's about a cent a swallow."

He adds a Postscript to the letter stating, "I will inclose in this envelope a letter to S. A. Mack (Sarah Ann Mack, who made her home with the Samuel Deffenbaugh family. Author) Please give it to her. I have a three cent piece left but I don't want the Republicans to get it for nothing."

Alex Mack bought his first bill of goods of any size from a supply house in Philadelphia. He and his partner were walking down the street when some bright shiny red berries met their gaze. They looked good to eat so they bought some, filling their pockets a little on the order of Benjamin Franklin with his loaves of bread, and started to eat. They soon discarded them, for this was their first experience with cranberries.

Charles A. Provance who worked for him sixteen years was a faithful and loyal clerk. His faithfulness was appreciated, and after he had been an employee for five or six years when Christmas time came around Alex always remembered his clerk. He was given five twenty-dollar gold pieces as a gift. Alex Mack did not wait until Christmas time to show his appreciation, but from time to time during the year smaller gifts of gold coins were given him.

There were two younger children in Elder Jacob Mack's family of his first marriage. One was Nancy who married Mose Fern and lived near Shinston, West Virginia, and the other was Jacob, named after his father. He was born on Brown's Run, June 27, 1845. The only surviving member of this family of Jacob's is Warren Mack of 310 West Portland Street, Phoenix, Arizona. The writer has visited him twice, in his Arizona home, the last time in July 1955. Our time was too short spent in this hospitable home to complete our visits, but suffice it to state that he had many incidents and memories of "Uncle Alex," of Masontown where Warren was born. In contrast to the small size of Alex, Jacob, his younger

CHILDREN OF JACOB MACK
l. to r.: Fanny Mack Donahue, Kathryn Mack Wells, Warren Mack

brother, was a huge man over six feet tall, weighing more than 200 pounds. He is well remembered in and around Masontown where he lived and in Ohio where he frequently visited. In as much as there were so many Macks named "Jacob," he was distinguished by being called "Pennsylvania Jake." He died a victim of Typhoid fever December 19, 1898. He is buried at Fairview Church of the Brethren.

Warren Mack, who was born at Masontown, December 19, 1893, as far as the writer knows, is the only surviving grandson of Elder Jacob Mack, the Dunkard Preacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Mack, celebrated their Golden Wedding in Masontown in March 1912. It was a gala occasion with numerous guests. The little old man was at his best, though there remained for him just three years more of life. At this time he speaks of his family, which was small . . . "We had one child, one grand child and one great-grand child—Louis Alexander Phillippi, Jr., now six months old and the boss of the household. He and his parents live with us and we all get along in perfect harmony. Our daughter was Catherine Lenora, who married William M. Sterling, and is now deceased. Her daughter Lillian married Mr. Phillippi."

The late Dr. E. K. Wells, of Masontown and a friend of the writer for a number of years, often spoke of Alex Mack. Dr. Wells had married Kathryn Mack, the daughter of Jacob Mack, and the niece of Alex Mack. One time he told the writer of the occasion when Alex Mack was sick and in need of his services. He made the call and found the old gentleman in bed with his neck encircled by the stiff collar of the day and which he customarily wore. The Doctor suggested that he might be more comfortable if he removed the collar and donned a night shirt. Dr. Wells stated that Mr. Mack replied, "I never owned one of those things." Yet his store when it was invoiced a few years afterwards totaled between ninety and one hundred thousand dollars. This was told the writer by one who aided in the invoicing, Mr. Herbert Johnson, then of Masontown. The sad picture is that the fortune he had taken so long to build up was soon dissipated following the death of Alex Mack.

Though raised in a Dunker home, the son of a Dunkard Preacher, who instilled the precepts of the Dunker faith in him from his youth up, Alex Mack never affiliated

(Continued on Page 8)

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

WASHINGTON calling—

EVERYBODY LIKES TO HEAR words of gratitude, encouraging reports and enthusiastic plans. A letter from our church at Washington, embodying all of these things, arrived in the office this past week.

Although most of the information from our mission churches comes in quarterly reports, which are rather impersonal, occasionally we are happy to receive a personal account as well as expressions of gratitude to the denomination for its support of the program, such as we received in their letter. We appreciated this fine letter and would like to share it with Evangelist readers.

February 8, 1956

Reverend W. Clayton Berkshire
Secretary, Mission Board
Ashland, Ohio

Dear Sir:

This letter is written to tell you of two things: (1) That the Washington Brethren Church is almost free of indebtedness on their first unit, and that by Easter time we plan to celebrate the complete payment of all indebtedness. Then, God willing, we can proceed with plans for the upper structure of the church which is so badly needed. (2) To thank the Mission Board for their wonderful help through the years, and to remind them that we have come this far only through their financial aid. Each and every member of the church is fully cognizant of the fact that, had it not been for the aid rendered us by the Mission Board, we could never have come this far. We want you to know that this help has not been taken for granted, but is sincerely and fully appreciated. Many a prayer has gone up from this congregation for God to continue to bless and to help our Board who are making such a magnificent effort to build churches to proclaim the Gospel.

Last October 1st our debt was approximately $9,500. This was the balance after we had made a tremendous effort to raise funds. All the church had agreed to pay something over and above what they usually paid in on building fund day. Each working member, and the housewives, if possible, hoped to pay an extra $100 during the year.

We felt that everyone had made a gigantic effort and that the peak had been given. We also knew that each building fund day—every four months—we attempted to raise $1,500. It would take us over a year and a half to be **debt free.**

We prayed. We knew what we wished, but we knew that without the help of God, it was impossible. Here is what happened: Building fund day in October we raised $2,500; Building fund day in February we raised $4,500.

Other plans have been carried out in preparation to to the completion of our building. Teacher training classes have been held. A new class for young married people has been started, with eight members—now 34. Special instruction courses held each Tuesday evening for this class. Wednesday evening prayer meetings and Bible study this past year have been studies on "How to Walk by Faith," "What it Means to be a Christian," and "The Bigness of Christ." These are my own titles for the studies; Reverend Klingensmith probably titles them differently. All these studies are well attended, and the discussion periods most heartwarming.

Do pray for us here in Washington as we learn the walk of Faith.

In His Service,

Cecile S. Babcock.

WORK CAMP FOR KRYPTON

(An Appeal for "Guided Muscles")

OUT OF THE EXPANDING WORK at Krypton comes the Missionary Board's realization that Miss Lowery needs help—in order both to safeguard her health and to help carry out the growing program there.

The problems arising in an effort to send this help evolve in a sort of house-that-jack-built sequence—but we are sure there must be a solution. In order to send either temporary or permanent helpers for the work at Krypton, additional living quarters are needed; therefore, the Board has authorized the building of a small cement-block house (about three rooms) to care for the situation. They are hoping to recruit some "work-campers"—or other qualified volunteers—for most of the construction; but when these volunteers are enlisted, they must have places in which to stay—while providing permanent housing for additional workers at Krypton. (There are no houses to rent or even share in the area—nor any motels.) This sounds like a difficult situation, but the Board is confident of a solution.

EASTER PUBLICITY

Bulletins, envelopes and other Easter publicity items will be mailed to the pastors of all Brethren churches soon. Each church will receive as many bulletins as they have indicated that they need for these special Sundays. Other publicity items and envelopes will be mailed to individual members who are EVANGELIST subscribers.

ALEX MACK THE MERCHANT

(Continued from Page 6)

himself with the church. Some may say why this article? The author feels that the family, the belief and the contacts made on so many lives will justify the space. He was an attendant at the Masontown Brethren Church, and we are told was generous in his support. We do not care to pass judgment upon Alex Mack, but perhaps there were some things in need of explanations which did not come his way. This was the case of his nephew William Mack, of Uniontown who died March 28, 1942 at the age of 81 years, 9 months, and 9 days. He had never had some matters made clear to him until during his last illness when the Author was able to do it and witnessed the tears roll down his face as he made a belated confession and choice. The writer conducted his last service in Uniontown.

During the last years of Alex Mack's life Dr. Martin Shively was the Pastor of the Masontown Brethren Church. He made a great place for himself in the lives of all with whom he came in contact. Many of them spoke of those days to the writer while he was living there as Pastor of the Brethren Church. Dr. Shively spent much time in Alex Mack's store. Here many friendships were made. Connections that are lovingly spoken of today, over forty years this side of that time, are carefully treasured. Easter time, 1915, the little old man was unable to go to his store. He was confined to his bed, and lingered until July 13, 1915, when he passed from this life at the age of 81 years, 3 months and 25 days. Dr. Martin Shively in the meantime had closed his Masontown Pastorate and had taken up the work of Bursar at Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio. He was notified and came to Masontown to conduct the last rites of his friend of the past years. Burial was in the Ross Cemetery just across the road from the Brethren Church. A large and imposing marker marks the resting place of Alexander Mack. Later on his companion moved to Los Angeles, California, with her relatives and died there November 29, 1930. However her body was placed in a mausoleum and not brought to Masontown until 1931 where on August 27, she was placed by the side of her husband in the Cemetery. She was past eighty eight years of age at the time of her death.

A hard worker and seldom sick, Alex Mack stated that he had lost but one year from work by sickness and then said, "I believe if I'd kept on taking medicine I'd be in the house yet or dead." Thus we can see cropping out some of the fire of his younger days. His business thriving, and having efficient help, he took two months off in 1907 and leaving the care of the business in the hands of his faithful clerk, Charles A. Provance, he made a trip to the Pacific Coast. Two nieces, and granddaughter accompanied them on the trip. There remain some pictures of this trip which was really an adventure and the subject of many conversations during his remaining years.

Interested in the Community as a whole, he was instrumental in organizing the First National Bank of Masontown, its first bank. It was organized in one of the rooms of his home on South Main Street about the year 1909. Alex Mack was its first President. The present bank in Masontown is a continuation of the Bank. Masontown has come a long way from the time it was a struggling village in 1865 with two stores, the Ross store and the Mack store, to a prosperous community today with some 5,000 people within its corporation. There are various stores of almost every description.

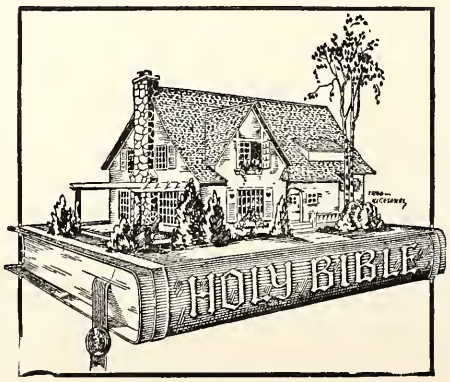
Almost every language may be heard upon the streets of Masontown today. Opening the Mines brought in people of many nations. Many who pass down the street and look just over the fence may wonder as they notice the imposing tomb stone containing the name of ALEXANDER MACK, just who may he have been? Never the less there are numerous people who knew him, admired him, and in whose veins flows the same blood. Many are growing old and gray, who as children learned of his graciousness in the store run by the little bearded man, when he placed in their little and sometimes smudgy hands the piece of candy or little trinket ever so dear to the childish mind. Though he has gone on with numerous ancestors and friends, truly we may say that his memory lingers on.

St. James, Maryland.

THE BOOK OF BOOKS

"The Book of books, the Bible,
That life divine imparts,
God's message to all people,
God's mirror for all hearts;
The Chart that guides to glory,
O'er life's deceitful sea,
And, while I live, the Bible
My guide to heaven shall be.

"It speaks the truth so purely,
It strips the mask from sin,
It warns of woes that surely
The guilty soul shut in;
It tells of free salvation,
How Jesus died for me,
And while I live, the Bible
My guide to heaven shall be."



Recent Advancements made at your Publishing Company

YOUR PUBLISHING COMPANY moved forward again this past week, in several important ways, most evident at present in the **Evangelist** you now hold, and even more evident as you continue to receive other Brethren Publications from time to time.

If you will feel the quality of the paper on which these words are printed, and compare it with that of two weeks ago, or any issue before that, you will discover a marked difference. The Company has secured this bulkier, better quality paper, in order to give more body to our **Evangelists** and other publications. It's a little more expensive, but we feel it is worth the difference.

This is the first issue of **The Evangelist** to use the new paper entirely, as last week's run used up the last of the old and some of the new.

Another significant change is in the manner of stitching, or stapling the **Evangelists.** You will note that this **Evangelist** contains two perfectly formed staples. Last week's **Evangelist** was the first publication to be run through our brand new gathering and stapling machine —our new stitcher.

This new piece of equipment, about which we told you in January, arrived when last week's **Evangelist** was on the press, and was immediately put into operation in time to stitch that issue. Compared with previous issues of the **Evangelist,** which, except for the 20 page numbers, contained just one staple, you now have a more sturdy paper.

These two advances, the new paper and double stapling, we are glad to pass on to you, our readers, in our **continued effort** to bring to you a constantly improving Brethren literature.

You will be happy to know, too, that the revamped heating system in the Publication Company building, about which we also told you in January, has been in operation for about a month, to everybody's satisfaction.

Thank you for your continued good-will, patronage and support which has helped to make these things possible.—W. S. B.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

GOD AND YOU

" If God be for us, who can be against us? . . . we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Romans 8:31, 37.

ARE YOU EVER FEARFUL? Then read the Scripture passage from which our text is taken, Romans 8:28-39. Here we have Paul's tremendous argument in which he asserts the security of God's people.

"If God be for us, who can be against us." Is it not true that we underestimate the volume of our resources in God? WE CONSIDER OUR PROBLEMS IN ISOLATION. Paul set his problems in the circle of God's redeeming purpose. And so he challenges his readers with the query "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribuation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" And then he breaks forth in his exultant assurance, "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other **creature,** shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 8:35, 37-39.

Maybe some will read these lines whose hearts are bowed down with sorrows, or perplexities, or fears. Let me urge that you lift up your hearts. The same God whom Paul trusted still reigns. The same God who delivered Daniel from the lion's den and the three Hebrew lads from the fiery furnace, David from the lion and Paul in the shipwreck, is the same God who cares for His children today; and we can rest assured that He is still "the same yesterday, today and forever," and He is still "for us."

Wedding Announcement

NEIDERHISER-ULERY. Miss Mary Ann Neiderhiser became the bride of James Edward Ulery in a wedding at the home of her pastor February 25, 1956. Mrs. Aleda and Grace Keck were also present. The double Ring Ceremony was read by the bride's pastor, the undersigned.

Elmer M. Keck, Pastor Valley Brethren Church.

Report of the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA Brethren Conference opened in the Stockton Brethren Church on Thursday morning, January 19, 1956, and continued through Sunday, January 22, 1956. The meeting was called to order at 10:20 o'clock by the Moderator, Virgil Ingraham.

Chuck Levington, Pastor of the Stockton Church, led in the morning devotions and then extended a hearty welcome to all delegates, guests and speakers attending the conference. Responses were made from Manteca and Lathrop, and from the National Missionary Board by Brother Clayton Berkshire.

The minutes were read. The differente committees were appointed, and the conference was off to a good start. The courtesies of conference were extended to our guests, including Brother and Sister H. B. Puterbaugh, from Tucson, Arizona, and Brother Clayton Berkshire, who was our guest speaker and evangelist for the conference.

The business sessions of this conference were handled smoothly and efficiently.

Our conference theme, "Living and Giving the Gospel," was well carried out all during the conference; not only in Brother Berkshire's missionary evangelistic messages, but also in the devotions and talks by all the different speakers.

We were glad to welcome the H. B. Puterbaughs to our district from Tucson, Arizona; and handed them a letter of good will and greetings to be given to their home church.

Among things decided upon at this conference were:

1. To better organize in this District so we could put forth a stronger missionary effort.
2. To form a District Brethren Laymen's organization to develop a closer harmony and fellowship among our churches.
3. To have **The Brethren Evangelist** in every home so as to know what was being done over the brotherhood. (Manteca has already subscribed to the **Evangelist 100%**.
4. To try to cooperate a little closer with the general brotherhood organization so that all might better benefit.
5. To ask that the National Moderator be sent to each district conference in the future in order that he and we might know what our churches are doing.
6. To strive harder to do God's will so that the world might see Jesus living in us.

We had many beautiful specials in music. The messages were soul-touching and inspiring. The challenge to us as Christians was great; we must do our best to meet it. The fellowship and love shown at the conference gave proof that God was in our midst.

The Northern California Brethren Conference sends greetings to all churches in the Brotherhood and may God bless you all as He has done us.

Conference Secretary—Julion L. Hallett,

Conference Moderator—Virgil Ingraham.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

CONFERENCE BOARD

C. Y. Gilmer .....Moderator
Cecil Johnson .....Vice Moderator
Elmer Gall .....Treasurer
Howard Frey .....Statistician
Julion Hallett .....Secretary,
847 Edythe St., Manteca, Calif.

Howard Crom
Virgil Ingraham
Steven Hill
Lester Schmiedt

MISSION BOARD

C. Y. Gilmer .....Chairman
Stanley Hagstrom .....Sect.-Treasurer,
Austin Road, Manteca, Calif.

Howard Frey
Ivan Eubanks
Harlin Lawrance

SCHOLARSHIP LEAGUE

Mrs. C. Y. Gilmer .....1 yr.....Chairman
Joan Sperry .....2 yrs....Secretary,
244 Mosswood Ave., Stockton, Calif.
Frances Schmiedt .....3 yrs....Treasurer
Agness Elliott .....3 yrs.

PASS IT ON

If you hear a kind word spoken
Of some worthy soul you know,
It may fill his heart with sunshine
If you only tell him so.

If a deed, however humble,
Helps you on your way to go,
Seek the one whose hand has helped you,
Seek him out and tell him so!

If your heart is touched and tender
Toward a sinner, lost and low,
It might help him to do better
If you'd only tell him so.

"Oh, my sisters, Oh, my brothers,
As o'er life's rough path you go,
If God's love has saved and kept you,
Do not fail to tell men so."

—Author Unknown.

Sunday School Suggestions by Joseph R. Shultz

(Sponsored by the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church)

IT IS MISSIONS . . .

. . . TO ENROLL MEN IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE MOST EFFECTIVE UNIT of a church for reaching and winning lost men is a Sunday school class of men, graded by age. Men desire the expressed interest and fellowship of men, and will respond more quickly to a man's invitation.

Men exert a very great influence on whatever they do. Men give a strong and effective type of leadership essential to the best church work. Men provide most of the mission money. When men are leading, it is much easier to get others to follow. The hegemony of dynamic churches is composed of men.

Therefore every Sunday school should: (1) Provide adequate facilities for men's classes, (2) Enlist a dynamic consecrated teacher, (3) Enroll the parents of the children in our Sunday schools who are not enrolled, (4) Check the Church roll, visitors list, wedding guests, etc. for prospects.

. . TO CONDUCT A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

1. The Vacation Bible school makes disciples.—It is conservatively estimated that in a typical year approximately 788,466 pupils attend Vacation schools who are not in Sunday school. If the Vacation schools had not been held, most of the thousands of children would have received no Christian training that year.

2. The Vacation Bible school leads to the confessions of Christ in baptism and to church membership. From the churches reporting on this point the vast majority indicate Confessions of Faith each year. And they believe the seeds sown in the school continue to bear fruit throughout the year.

3. The Vacation Bible school provides a "laboratory" for leadership training. A benefit equal with that of reaching and teaching children is the experience gained by select leaders and their assistants. The school might well be used in "breaking in" those people who are reluctant to assume responsibility. The whole church gains from a Vacation school.

* * *

. . TO INCREASE YOUR ENROLLMENT TO 125 FOR EVERY 100 CHURCH MEMBERS

Studies show that church members enrolled in Sunday school give many times as much per capita for church work as do those not in Sunday scohol . . . If we enroll 125 for every 100 church members, it will mean that many unenrolled church members will be brought into our Bible-teaching program and will begin a more active church life.

People not in Sunday school have a greater tendency to drift away from the church. They stop growing and lose interest in mission enterprises. Keeping them in a vital Bible-study program will promote spiritual growth and will assure a better informed, more loyal, and more prayerful membership.

* * *

. . . TO DEVELOP YOUR WORKERS AS PERSONAL SOUL-WINNERS

Was it missions when Jesus conversed with a woman by the well in Sychar? When we pause to consider the elements of soul-winning we are forced to conclude that it is missions to develop teachers and workers as personal soul-winners.

A **commuity of interest** must be built around our lost neighbors. Being the object of love—the center of a community of Christian interest—will cause my neighbor to wonder what is missing in his life. Sometimes this interest can be increased by continued personal visits. At other times the interest is heightened by attendance in a friendly Sunday school class. Whatever avenue is employed the neighbor must be the recipient of understanding love.

It is missions—to enroll men in Sunday schools, to conduct a Vacation Bible school, to increase Sunday school enrollment, and to develop workers as personal soul-winners.

CO-ORDINATING PLANNING
Committee Meets In Ashland

A MEETING of the Co-Ordinating Planning Committee was held in Ashland, on February 28th. This Committee, you will recall, is an outgrowth of retiring Moderator W. B. Brant's Moderator's Address to the late General Conference of the Brethren Church.

It is significant to note that a representative was present from every Board and Auxiliary of the Church, with the exception of one—and that one was prevented from attending only because of his duties in holding a Revival Meeting.

The fact of this excellent attendance is surpassed only by the intense interest and desire of the assembled Brethren to come up with plans and suggestions for inter-Board and Auxiliary cooperation in the Brethren Church, plus forward looking plans for the advancement of the Church and its work.

Your Committee, Brethren, spent many profitable hours together, about which you will hear more, from time to time. Another meeting of the Committee is scheduled for next month.—W. S. B.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

SHARING

There's something in sharing,
Just friendly caring,
  That makes the heart lift and sing.
It's strange how the way
Is happier all day
  For just such a little thing.

—Veda Group.

GOD SHARES HIS GOOD THINGS with His people, and wants His children to be successful and prosperous (Psalm 35:27). In our good wishes and prayers for our fellow Christians we think of their health and spiritual prosperity (3 John 2). God knows that material prosperity will do us no good without our hearts being fully set on the Giver (2 Chron. 20:20). If our eyes need to be fixed on the Giver, He can take the material gifts away (Job 1:21).

Christ has promised to bring me to Glory,
  To everlasting and blest;
But the way over which He is leading
  Holds many a trial and test.
The shadows oft follow the sunshine,
  And thorns so oft cover the rose,
But 'tis that I might trust in the Giver
  And not in the gift He bestows.

I'd seek for the fair sheltered bowers,
  The smooth, easy paths for my feet;
But oft in the storm-shaken mountains
  He leads, 'mid the snow and the sleet.
Then trembling with fear I draw closer
  To His blessed side for repose,
And my eyes become fixed on the Giver
  And not on the gift He bestows.

How blest is His voice in the darkness,
  How precious the touch of His hand,
When e'en earth's foundations seem crumbling,
  And alone in my sorrow I stand.
'Tis then His sweet peace like a fountain
  O'er my wounded heart tenderly flows,
And I long to know only the Giver,
  Thinking not of the gift He bestows.

Avis B. Christiansen.

Except for inheritance God's promise of prosperity is conditional (Psalm 1:1-3; Josh. 1:8). God is interested in our success, but most of all He wants to share HIMSELF with us (John 14:23). His best gift is Himself.

God would save us from the world's grasping way of acquiring (Prov. 11:24, 25). God teaches that the way to get is by GIVING (Luke 6:38).

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
It is in loving that we are loved,
It is in giving that we receive,
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

—St. Francis of Assisi.

God teaches us to PAY the price that does NOT cost, but PAYS (John 12:24). He teaches us to share with Him what He has shared with us—LOVE, HELP, TIME, MEANS. We have no right to ask Him to bless us unless we in turn are willing to BE a blessing—in fact, He cannot bless except by this condition (Gen. 12:2).

Upon our world we lift our eyes,
  And lo! the harvest fields are red:
  Filled with the dying and the dead,
With mother's tears, with children's cries.
Expendables of earth are these
  Who fought in blood: who fall in flame;
  But we, who bear the Saviour's name,
Shall we be softly wrapped in ease?
Our God has never changed His plan,
  His still the call to go, to pray—
  To heal earth's heartbreak in our day,
He ever meets man's need with man.
We dare not then refuse to be
  The life poured out; the corn of wheat:
  Burnt sacrifice, of savour sweet:
For HIS EXPENDABLES are we.

—H. Bruechert.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for March 18, 1956

JESUS INSTITUTES THE LORD'S SUPPER

Lesson: Luke 22:7-23

GOD "HATH GIVEN unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue" (II Peter 1:3). The Lord's Supper, instituted by Christ, may be included among the "things that pertain unto life and godliness." It was given for our spiritual edification.

The Communion Service is an ordinance of the church because it was instituted by our Lord, and intended to be perpetuated by His followers.

The earthly life of Jesus Christ was drawing to a close. The hours were rapidly approaching when He would be betrayed and then crucified. Thus it was in the closing hours of His earthly ministry that Jesus inaugurated this memorial supper.

Looking forward to death, Christ ate the passover supper with His beloved disciples. The cup of wine and unleaven bread were part of this annual Jewish feast. Jesus, however, knowing what would take place upon

the Cross of Calvary, desired to institute a new and different spiritual observance for His followers.

To this end, after the passover meal had been observed, "He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is My body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of Me."

The disciples could not understand the meaning of their Master's strange words! "My body"—"given for you." What did He mean?

Is it not strange how dull of hearing we become even in the midst of the spoken truth! Jesus had repeatedly warned His followers that "He must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day" (Matt. 16:21). Still they did not understand!

One cannot help but wonder if this same condemnation is ours! Surely the warnings of Scripture are clear to our ears, and yet we do not understand (or should it be said, we "will not" understand!) We should hear Jesus say to us what He said to the disciples on the road to Emmaus: "O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken" (Luke 24:25).

Next our Lord took the cup of wine, saying, "This cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you." A new covenant Christ was making with His disciples, for "He is the mediator of the new testament (covenant)" sealed with His blood. "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins . . . But this man (Christ), after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God" (Heb. 10:4, 12).

Why should Christian people observe the Lord's Supper?

1. To be obedient to the words of Christ—"This **do**" (Luke 22:19).

2. To remember Christ's sacrifice for us—"This do in **remembrance of Me**" (Luke 22:19).

3. To look forward to His coming again—"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death **till He come**" (I Cor. 11:26).

Jesus said: "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:17).

WORLD-WIDE BIBLE READING—1955

DR. JAMES V. CLAYPOOL, who is in charge of the American Bible Society's Worldwide Bible Reading program, reports that 1955 has been the greatest year yet in distributing the Bible reading bookmarks. It took 43 tons of paper occupying 2½ freight cars to do the Worldwide Bible Reading printing. Eight college students took two months of the summer to stuff 172,000 packet envelopes which were addressed to ministers in 80-some denominations. The filled mail sacks took 4 trucks and 5 men four hours just to load the sacks and get them to the post office.

Although the Bible Society printed 14,800,000 bookmarks, nearly three million more than in the previous year, so numerous were the requests for the reading lists the supply was exhausted before Thanksgiving, the day on which the Bible reading program starts.

WITH THE LAYMEN

SOUTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT LAYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

February 20th, 1956

THE REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING of the Southern Indiana District Laymen's Association was held at the Burlington Brethren Church on Monday Evening February 20, 1956. After a very delicious ham dinner the Laymen assembled in the church auditorium for the evening program.

The meeting was opened with an organ prelude by Mrs. Russell Rodkey. Brother Lloyd Williams extended words of welcome and acted as master of ceremonies. The Laymen joined in singing "There is Power in the Blood," after which Rev. Sibert of the host church offered prayer. Frederick Clingenpeel gave the devotions from the eighth chapter of Acts, followed by a few timely remarks and prayer. A special number was rendered by the men's quartet, after which the speaker, Dennis Snell, missionary from Old Mexico, gave a talk on his unusual experience in dealing with the Mexicans far back in the mountains. He related that due to the hostility and ignorance of the people, it was necessary to travel by plane through the canyons, flying so low that the natives would be sure to receive literature and booklets prepared for them. Through this means many of these peoples were and are being Converted to Jesus Christ. His talk was most interesting and we believe worthy of the support of any and all Missionary minded people. Pictures were shown of the country, the people and their habits. The Quartet then rendered another number, after which the meeting was turned over to Brother Russell Rodkey, President of the laymen, for the business session.

The first order of business was reading of Secretary's and Treasurer's reports of last meeting, and the roll call, accounting for 75 laymen and visitors present. Brother Ted Hevel gave a short talk on the laymen's activities, stressing the lack of interest of some churches and the need for better organization. Offering was then lifted in the sum of $54.68. Your Secretary suggested that part of this offering be sent to the Brethren Publishing Co. to help them in their need. The Laymen then voted to send half to the Publishing Co. and half to Brother Snell representing the Air Mail from God Mission, Inc., Los Angeles, Calif. Since the next meeting will be joint between the northern and southern Districts the North Manchester Brethren Church was selected as hosts. This meeting to be held May 21, 1956. Also the meeting Monday Evening, August 27, 1956 will be held in the Oakville Brethren Church. This meeting changed from the regular date August 20th, account of National Conference. This concluding the regular business, Brother Rodkey thanked the ladies for the delicious dinner and for the interest of all Laymen. The Laymen then sang "He Lives" after which the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. Sibert.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

CHRISTIAN YOUTH CONDUCT

CAN I DO THIS and be a Christian? That is the question which I hear quite often, and no one seems to be able to give the answer. Those who think they know the answer simply reply by saying "Of course you can," or "Absolutely not!" one being as emphatic as the other. At first it raises the bristles a little when one gets into such discussions, but after a while, when he learns that the two sides usually aren't very far apart in convictions, it becomes amusing. The expression isn't heard nearly as often nowadays as it once was, a sign that the consciences are not bothering people as much as they once did. Too bad. It is a sign of weakness.

IS IT WRONG?

The usual approach is loaded with argument. "Is it wrong to smoke (dance, play cards)?" Watch out for it. Be ready to parry right or left and take cover. If the individual thinks that it is wrong, he probably is going to put you on the spot. If he thinks it is **not** wrong, his next question will be, "Well, what is **wrong** with it?" Take a look at the question. The inquirer is thinking in negative terms, be he **for**, or **against**, the issue. Even if he thinks there is nothing wrong with it, he still is thinking in negative terms, and in either case, you are the one who is on the spot, the one who has to answer the questions while he thinks up more.

HOW I LIKE TO HANDLE IT

Never let yourself be put on the "witness stand" to do all of the answering. It is the problem of the inquirer, obviously, or he would not have brought up the subject. He is going to have to answer the questions for himself. Don't let him get away with soothing his conscience at your expense.

Once a young man asked me the question (putting me on the spot in regard to predestination): "Do you believe what is to be **will** be?" No matter how I answered this question, another would follow with greater force, more difficult than the first. So I got off the witness stand and put him on it by replying with the question, "Well, do **you** believe that what **is** to be **won't** be?" This is what Jesus did when he asked the challengers a question in reply to theirs: "The baptism of John, is it from heaven, or of men?"

Another time a man, a worker in a factory, asked me if people didn't go to church just because they thought they were better than others. I couldn't think of a better answer than to ask him a similar question regarding his physical being: "When you get home from work tonight, will you take a shower because you are dirty, or just because you think you are clean?" He gave up.

LET'S PUT IT THIS WAY

BUT, YOU SAY, that doesn't answer our original question. I admit it doesn't. But it does help us understand the type of thinking behind the question, and what we must avoid in our answer. For what we really want (isn't it?) is to keep his friendship, and win him to a deeper fellowship with the Lord. We don't want just to win (or do we)? an argument!

Let's take the question: Can I do this and be a Christian? Now let's translate it into the thought of the inquirer: Can I get away with this and will God overlook it? Am I right?

Suppose he asks, "What is **wrong** with it?" Obviously, whether he wants it that way or not, the basic issue is not what is **wrong**, but what is the **right** thing to do. So let's ask him to answer for himself to the best of his ability, "What is good and right about it?" What good thing is accomplished, in what way are you brought closer to the Lord? We say this, because we know fellowship with the Lord to be the best thing for the soul, and all things ought to promote that fellowship. Let him answer the question, In what way is this thing developing my Christian character? It is the liberal thinker who insists on being "positive." Then let us be positive!

I once led a discussion with young people on the topic of "The Christian and Smoking." Obviously, I couldn't possibly be in favor of it. But to surprise them, and to prevent making the error of setting a glorious mystical cloud about the cigarette, and to discourage the use of tobacco instead of making the youth determined to go out to discover "what was wrong with it"—thus encouraging the habit—I said: "Tomorrow I am going to start smoking." They looked shocked. I asked, "What is wrong? People in this church smoke don't they?" "Then it must be all right. I am going to take it up. But there is something you must do first: you must convince me that it not only is right to smoke, but you must also convince me that it is healthful and good for me." After a pause, I said, "All right. Now who can give me the first good reason for smoking?" I took a piece of paper and made three headings, as follows:

Good	Questionable	Bad

Without touching the evils of the thing, we proceeded. Finally a little boy repeated something which he had heard an ADULT say: "It helps to relax your nerves." I wrote it down as if accepted. "Anything else?" Nothing. "Anything questionable about smoking now?" We proceeded to mention several things.

"Now for the evils." They poured them out like water from a fountain. When we got through repeating several times, we added up our columns. The "Good" column had only one item: "It relaxes your nerves." Then we asked the question: "What is wrong with my nerves?" After a long pause, the mental gears grinding, a little boy said, "You've been smoking too much!" Our cause was won by beginning with the positive and going as far as we could. The evil was apparent.

THE CHRISTIAN'S DO'S AND DON'TS

People who argue constantly about "legalism" go about proving their Christian faith by showing what they do, and what they don't do. They who make great claims about the Christian's liberty from the law, go about condemning others for what they **do**, as if they were lost by deeds. Again, the liberal thinkers boast a freedom from works, and go out to prove it by falling

in line with almost anything the world has to offer, forgetting that the Scripture says: "Come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord." Now as far as I can see, either road takes you to a similar destination in yuor relationship to other people: NO LOVE FOR THE BRETHREN. And John tells us that "we know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." Can either of the above-mentioned groups make that claim? Well? What?

What Does This Have to Do With Youth?

PLENTY! It means that if you are confused, so will your youth be. It means that we had better set our minds on heavenly things, and settle down quickly to training our youth—BY EXAMPLE and word—for the task of bringing the world to Christ. The spirit of forgiveness toward one another is the gospel we are teaching our youth. Do you have sins? So do I? Do I have faults? So do you! But go now, and "learn what that meaneth."

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. Brother H. R. Garland notes recent attendances of 105 for Sunday School, 96 for morning worship, and 125 at the evening service. "The Gospel Mariners" were featured at the evening service.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Cash Day is scheduled for March 18th. The money to be received will go toward their building indebtedness to help fulfill their slogan, "Started in '46—Finished in '56."

WARSAW, INDIANA. A Gospel Team from Ashland College will conduct services in the Warsaw Church on March 11th.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. The February 28th Union Lenten service, held in the Methodist Church, was in charge of Brother Henry Bates, with the Choir of the Brethren Church furnishing the special music.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. The Homebuilders Class was in charge of the evening service on March 4th, with Edmundo Zarrio, of Quito, Ecuador, as guest speaker.

COUNTY LINE, INDIANA. Brother Herbert Gilmer comments on their Teacher's Training Course. He says, "Very good interest. The B. Y. C. has been in each session. They are our future teachers."

Brother Gilmer comments also on their Sunday evening services, in which different Sunday School classes take charge, "This is a good thing for the whole church."

Four new members were baptized and received into the church recently.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. The Laymen's banquet, with the members' wives as guests, was held the evening of March 7th. Rev. Ira Wilson of Polo, was guest speaker. The banquet was served by the Home Economic's Department of the Lanark High School.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. Brother J. Milton Bowman reports that the Recreation room for the Young People, in the parsonage basement, is now completed. He says, "It is a splendid job, all of the labor volunteer."

Coming projects include: Redecorating the inside of the Church, putting the second coat of paint on the outside of the Church, bracing the west foundation wall, and reroofing the parsonage.

An "Unusual Birthday Party," for the church was held the evening of March 2nd. A covered dish supper was followed with a special program.

MANTECA, CALIF. From the Manteca bulletin we learn that 23 were present at the District Laymen's Rally Organizational meeting held on February 17th. Six from Stockton, five from Lathrop, ten from Manteca, and two visitors. Officers elected were L. A. Schmeidt, president; Harold Wolf, vice-president; Howard Frey, secretary-treasurer. The next Rally is scheduled for the Lathrop Church on May 18th.

The Manteca Church held a special service for the public dedication of little children on March 4th.

LATHROP, CALIF. Dr. Claud Studebaker conducted special services in the Lathrop Church, Sunday through Wednesday evenings, February 19th through 22nd.

The Lathrop Church was host to the Berean Institute the evening of March 2nd.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

"Having then gifts, differing." Romans 12:6.

A CERTAIN CITY proudly displays signs proclaiming that it is the baby-buggy capitol of the world. This is typical of our day. Individually and nationally, we have made fetish of being first in something, of getting ahead of others. Success is often interpreted to mean outdistancing those around us—producing the best, selling the most, winning the promotions.

The Christian concept of success goes counter to this. Success is not superiority over others. Not all of us are given the Talents to be superior. If you have them, you cannot honestly take credit for them. They are part of your God-given endowment.

Instead, success is faithfulness in using your abilities to further the common good. The measure is not how many people you serve or how important the service is. The measure is how faithfully you use your abilities for the welfare of others.

The successful in life are those who faithfully use their abilities to promote good for all. The failures in life are those who do not. Which are you—a failure or a success? Success is faithfulness.

Mrs. Helena Bogue,
Cerro Gordo, Ill.

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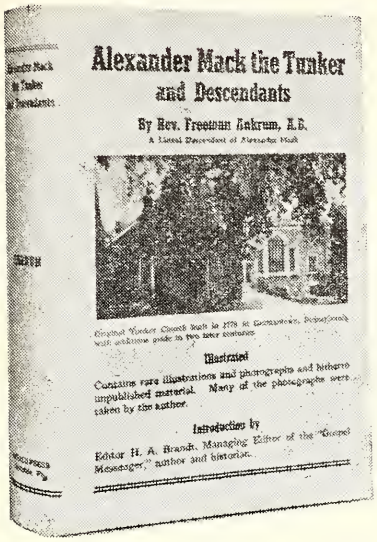

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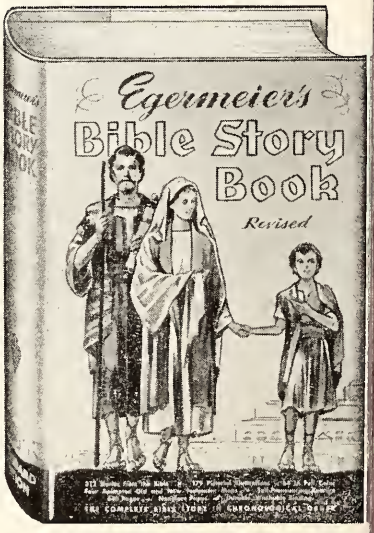

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FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFERING ISSUE

—Photo by Leland S. Brubaker.

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Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. Brother Fred Vanator writes us as follows, under the date of Sunday, March 4th: "I just could not let the day pass without getting this 'Item' off to you for your 'Interesting Items' column. This morning brought us our largest attendance yet—Eighty-five. Again we had a number of first-time attendants. We had a fine service and the people seemed loath to depart and stood around that they might have a time of fellowship.

"Last Thursday night at the time of the W. M. S. and Laymen's group meetings, Mrs. H. B. Richmond, one of our winter affiliate members, brought us a check for $100.00 from the 'Altruist Class' of the Nappanee, Indiana, Sunday School (of which class she is a member) same to be used for the purchase of New Song Books. How well we appreciate this, and the books will be purchased at once.

"We also were told this morning by Brother Wilbur Whittle, a visitor from the Goshen, Indiana, Brethren Church, that a fine Communion Set is on its way to us from the Goshen Church. Our deep appreciation is extended to the Altruist Class and the Goshen Church for these fine gifts.

"Last Sunday we received the offering for the Benevolent Board work and it amounted to $52.20. We have supported each and every offering for the interests of the Brotherhood as they came, ever since we began our work here. Our people believe in giving for 'OTHERS' and they do it. When we can have our own Church Building we feel that the response will be even greater than at present. We believe that the effort of our group, under the guidance of God, is being rewarded and we trust that the Brethren over the Brotherhood will continue their prayers in our behalf."

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Brother N. V. Leatherman was the radio devotions speaker over WAYZ the week of February 20th.

New hymnals were dedicated at the special "Sunday School Worship Service," held on March 4th. A hymn sing, using the new hymnals, was held at the evening service.

The Men's Bible Class sponsored the showing of the sound film, "Stephen, the First Christian Martyr," on March 11th.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. March 11th was designated as Assistant's Sunday, with all assistant teachers and officers of the Sunday School taking charge. As a regular feature, the second Sunday of each month will be known as "Assistant's Sunday."

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. An evening's Singspiration was held on March 4th, featuring Richard Kuns as song leader, and W. S. Benshoff as pianist. Special numbers and congregational singing of hymns and choruses, with a brief meditation by the pastor, Brother William Fells, constituted the program. The offering of the evening went toward the Ohio District Sisterhood Goal of buying a filing cabinet for our mission at Lost Creek, Kentucky.

ASHLAND, OHIO. PARK STREET BRETHREN. The girls of the three Sisterhood Societies met in the parsonage basement on March 12th in a combined meeting for bandage rolling.

The Park Street Brethren Junior Choir were guests on the Children's Bible Hour Broadcast over WATG in Ashland, on March 3rd, at which time they presented special music.

AKRON, OHIO. FIRESTONE PARK BRETHREN. Guest speaker on February 19th was Rolf Stolpner, German Exchange student at Ashland College.

The Sunday School Cabinet has designated that assistant teachers should teach on the fifth Sunday of months

(Continued on Page 19)

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 19)

APPRECIATION

OUR THANKS to Missionary Board General Secretary W. Clayton Berkshire for his help and cooperation in providing copy for this special Foreign Missions Offering issue of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST. W. S. B.

OUR COVER PICTURE

Baptismal Service in Nigeria: Jim Bowman, Bob Bischof and native converts.

PHOTO ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Nigerian photos in this issue were taken by Leland S. Brubaker and those of Argentina were taken by Robert O. Byler.

The Editor's Pulpit

The Torn Veil

IN THE PRE-EASTER SEASON we can well turn our attention to that verse of scripture which says "And, behold, the vail of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom." (Matt. 27:51).

The rending of this veil is of supreme importance to the sinner seeking salvation, and to the Christian seeking forgiveness for sins committed.

The Old Testament veil represented the separation of God and man, brought about by one thing, sin—man's disobedience and transgression of the divine law of God. Only the sanctified, purified and cleansed priest was permitted to enter into the Holy of Holies, through the veil, and that but once a year. Then only with the blood of the sacrificial lamb as an atonement for the sins of the people.

Entering the Holy of Holies through the veil and into the presence of God was serious business, and not to be taken lightly, nor abused. Sin, and the atonement for it, was serious business with God, and He insisted that His priests be holy and sanctified. We notice that through the years the system of sacrifice was abused and corrupted, both by priests and people, until the Lord cried out, "I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your assemblies. Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts." Amos 5:22, 23. The messages of the prophets are full of the lament of the Lord because of the false and insincere efforts of a careless, indifferent people in their worship of Him.

At the time of Christ's sojourn on earth, the veil covering the Holy of Holies in the temple, was still in evidence—a symbol of priestly sacrifice for men's sins. The Jew knew that the priest took the blood of the Paschal lamb and sprinkled it upon the altar in the Holy of Holies inside the veil for his sin. None dared to enter, nor dared to make sacrifice for sin save the priest.

When Christ died upon the cross, and as He cried, "It is finished," the veil in the temple was rent in two from top to bottom. The death of Christ coincided with the hour of passover sacrifice. Was not Christ the Paschal Lamb of God? Was He not the Passover Lamb Himself? He told His disciples the night before, "With desire have I desired to eat this passover with you." He is referring to the annual passover supper which was eaten by the Jews following the slaying of the lamb for sacrifice, and which He had annually eaten through the years as an obedient Jew. But in speaking to His disciples, He knew that even though He wanted greatly to eat this particular Passover supper with them, that at the hour when it was to be eaten, He, Himself would be hanging on Calvary's cross as their (and our) Passover Lamb. So He told His disciples, that even though He desired to eat this Passover with them before He suffered, yet instead, He would be the suffering, dying Lamb upon the Cross, and that no matter how much He personally desired to eat it with them, He would eat it no more "until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God." (Luke 22: 15:16.)

We are not given any enlightenment in the scriptures as to how successful the temple sacrifice was at this particular time. Certainly it could not have been a normal, yearly sacrifice. The fact of Christ on the cross would undoubtedly have disturbed the priests and the people. Scripture spares us the details, but we can imagine what a shock it must have been to the temple priest as he at the appointed hour, as priests had done for centuries, stepped to the Holy of Holies, in preparation for sprinkling the blood upon the altar, and, about to draw apart the veil, to suddenly see it rip from top to bottom, in front of his face.

The fact that nothing of these actions is recorded indicate their relative insignificance in view of the great fact that at the moment Christ yielded up His life, the barrier (the veil) between God and man was ripped apart. (literally, "removed.") The Priest who entered the Holy of Holies on that day was Christ, the Lamb of God, presenting His own Blood as an atonement for the sins of men. Do our hearts rejoice because of it?

The torn veil is important to us in another way. Heretofore all approach to God was through the priest. The Roman Catholic Church still holds to this theory in its system of masses, the priests, the confessional, and so on.

A close examination of the scriptures points out that the Christian needs no form of priests, masses, or confession to men. "Come boldly," says the writer of Hebrews, (Read Hebrews 4:14-16), "unto the throne of grace." The freedom of the Christian believer to enter into the eternal Holy of Holies is irrefutable. The torn veil guarantees us the perfect right to come boldly to the very throne of God through Jesus Christ, our Mediator, and eternal High Priest.—W. S. B.

EDUCATION in Missions

ROBERT BISCHOF

THE MINISTRY OF JESUS while He was on earth gives us the example of how the Church should carry on the work of spreading the Gospel message. Jesus healed the sick, thus setting the pattern for medical work as a vital part of mission work. He also went about preaching and teaching. He called disciples to follow Him, and as they followed, He taught them how to live a Christian life; but more important He taught them the Love of God and how it was to be shown through His own death on the cross in order that they might be saved.

Finally as Jesus was about to leave the disciples and return to His Father, having called them together, He gave them the Great Commandment of Matthew 28:19, "Go ye therefore, and **teach** all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **teaching** them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Thus teaching or education is a very important phase of evangelism. Teaching in the command comes before baptizing. It is the central aim of the mission schools in Nigeria to win men to Christ. The young man who is in training in order that he may become a teacher is told time and time again that his main duty as a teacher in a school is not only to instruct the young boy that 2 plus 2 equals 4, but to teach that Jesus is the Son of God; that He came into the world and died that we might have eternal life; that the only way we can obtain eternal life is by believing on Him and obeying His commandments.

Northern Nigeria, where the mission area is located, is thickly populated with about 17,000,000 people. Of this number about 10,000,000 are Muslim; the remaining 7,000,000 are predominantly pagan, with about 50,000 of the number being Christian. Our mission area is just under 10,000 square miles, with a population of over half a million. There are about six fair-sized villages in this area, the population of which is largely Muslim; but the majority of the people in the area are pagan.

Types of Education

Three groups are carrying on education in this area. The government has a number of junior-primary schools in the large centers of Muslim population—in the large towns or villages. In the government schools the students for the most part come from Muslim homes; they are instructed in the Koran everyday. Mohammedanism is taught as a solid subject. A pagan boy who goes to a government school will thus be instructed five or six days a week in the Muslim religion. Will that boy continue in the old tribal religion (animism) of the worshiping of rocks and trees and such, or will he become a Muslim?

The Roman Catholics also have schools in the mission area. Their work is in the eastern part among the Margi and Higi people. Here again a boy is instructed five or six days a week in the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. Will the pagan boy hold on to his worship of the trees near his compound, or will he leave his pagan ways and become a Roman Catholic?

Then the Mission has schools. Our schools are not located in the large towns where the Mohammedan people live, but are located in villages such as Lassa, Bazza, Garkida, Marama, centers of pagan population. The boy entering school is instructed in his own language; he need not learn Fulani or Hausa, as he must if he attends a Government or Roman Catholic school; but he receives his instruction in his own native tongue. Five days a week for 36 weeks out of the year, he has Bible courses, both in the old and in the New Testament. He studies the life of Christ. His teacher is a Christian and witnesses to the boy of the love of God for all people. The boy learns verses of the Bible such as Psalms 1; John 3:16; the Ten Commandments, and the Beatitudes. He learns that the most important commandment is to love God with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his mind, and that the second commandment is also important—to love his neighbor as himself.

Two days a week he attends a chapel service, where the teachers preach and where he and the members of his class or another class put on skits taken from the Bible—such as David and Goliath, the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, Paul's journey to Damascus, etc. Then he attends prayer meeting on Wednesday night and learns to pray to God. On Sunday you find the boy in church at the village where the school is located, or else he returns to his native village where he gathers other

children and adults to sing hymns, and tells the Bible stories that he has learned throughout the week.

Effects of Christian Education

How effective is the school as a way of bringing men to Christ? I can not give you the figures on all the schools in the mission area, but I can give you the figures on Gulak where I was stationed the last year and a half of the first tour. Gulak is a fairly new station in a very backward area. The boy who comes to school may be forced to leave his home, and his people may have nothing to do with him. In December 1954, fourteen boys were graduated from Class 4. Fourteen were baptized Christians; the fifteenth had taken the covenant, but was considered too young to have baptism yet.

In Class 3, there were 13 boys, all of whom had been baptized. Remember that when these boys started into class 1, they were pagan. Perhaps they had heard the Word of God preached in their village by another boy. Seeing that he could read and write, they wanted to be able to read and write also and to know more about this Jesus who died to save them from their sins; so they came to school. They learned to read and write, add and subtract, but most of all they found their Saviour and they accepted Him; now they are witnesses of His love to other boys and girls, and men and women in their villages.

Schools are an important means of winning souls to Christ. Unfortunately in America we do not use them as such. What school in America can claim that at least 90% of those graduating are Christians? I feel sure at least 90% of the boys and girls and young men and women who leave the mission schools in Nigeria are Christians. In the year 1955 there were 2,611 boys and girls in 24 schools in the mission area. This is a very small number compared with the large number of boys and girls that haven't had an opportunity to attend a school, because there isn't a school in their village or within walking distance.

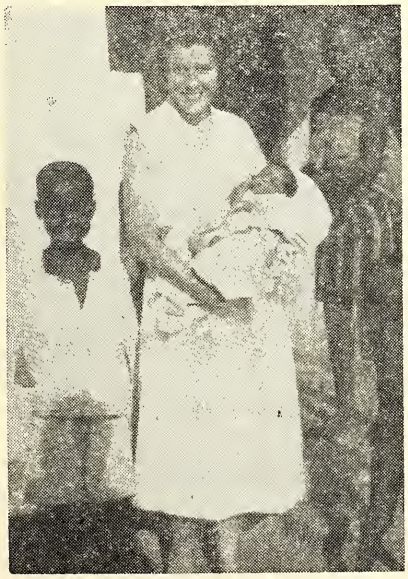
This year a new staion was opened at Uba. The mission expected that perhaps 70 would come to the school; but 135 came. At the moment they are having classes out under the trees, since the school buildings haven't yet been completed. There are many other such villages longing for a school.

How to Help the Program

What can you do? You can help us build more schools and train more teachers by giving to Foreign Missions in the Easter offerings. The pagan wants an education. Pagan parents know that when they send their children to a school it also means that they are also choosing the future religion for their children. They don't want their children to become Moslems. Many villages are asking the Mission to put a school in their villages. If we are to do so, we must have the funds.

MEDICINE in Missions

BEATRICE BISCHOF



IN HIS MINISTRY, Jesus went about healing the lame, giving sight to the blind, casting out evil spirits, making the lepers clean. We feel also a great ministry is possible in medical work. Thus we have various ways of witnessing for Jesus Christ.

When mothers and fathers bring their sick babies in to us, the first thing they say is, "Shetar, shetar," which means Satan. We know that the child has a disease, but convincing the father and mother of the fact is very difficult. We tell them that God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into the world, and that if they will but believe in Jesus as Saviour, He will drive Satan or the evil spirit from their child. We very frequently use the scripture about Jesus casting out demons, in our medical work.

All of our hospital and dispensary workers are Christian. Every morning we have prayer and devotions before starting our work. Each worker knows that his prime purpose is to teach Jesus Christ and to be a Christian witness among the patients.

The African minister, deacons, women, and the missionaries as well make regular visits to the hospital. Some patients want to leave the hospital because they believe an evil spirit may cause their death; some say they see that spirit come at night; and sometimes they become almost hysterical with fear. It is our task to

(Continued on Page 7)

BEHIND the HEADLINES in Argentina

NEW HEADQUARTERS IN BUENOS AIRES

THE WORK has been progressing quite satisfactorily in Argentina, keeping the Bylers busy (perhaps a bit too busy for one missionary family).

Last summer the urgency for securing a headquarter-residence in Buenos Aires was expressed and the Board committed itself to the purchase of such a building—with the help from our W. M. S. Then this past fall an excellent opportunity arose to purchase, in a fine location, an old building that might be adapted to use as a headquarters for the Argentine work. By making the deal at the time when Argentina's economy was in a rather fluid state, the Board was able to realize something of a financial advantage. Of course, they didn't have all the funds necessary at the time; however, realizing that they could count on the W. M. S. to help with this project, they borrowed sufficient funds to purchase the property.

THE BOARD'S STRATEGY IN ARGENTINA

The Missionary Board, within the last three years, has spent many hours in both private and collective consultation, study and planning relative to our work in Argentina. As a result of these earnest endeavors, the Board's strategy in Argentina is as follows:

1. To face this area of the world with realism—the kind of realism that Christ Himself possessed;

2. To develop strong national Christians by training better national leadership;

3. To develop and strengthen existing churches through stewardship emphasis;

4. To use more extensively the radio work (Adelante Juventud), as a means of evangelizing;

5. To reinforce the missionary staff with some of our finest Brethren young people;

6. To provide adequate housing-headquarter facilities and missionary staff residences;

7. To engage in long-range planning.

Although the building is old and will need considerable remodeling to adapt it to the work that is being planned for the future, it is in an excellent location and can be used for some time in its present state. Many items of furnishings, left in the property by the former owners, are proving quite useful to the work also. In addition to these advantages, the building was purchased at a reasonable enough figure that even with the remodeling cost added, the entire expense will likely be no greater than we anticipated for the building's cost.

One phase of the work in Argentina will profit considerably by the purchase of the new headquarters building—the radio evangelism. Since the radio audience has grown so rapidly, producing such a fine response to the Gospel over the air, recordings for broadcasting will be made in a studio that will be arranged when the necessary remodeling has been accomplished.

A Hammond Organ

Recently, with such encouraging growth in the work, it seemed advisable to secure more music for the radio programs. An electric organ seemed to be the answer to such a need. At this point, Mr. Harold Stacey, a fine Christian business man, with whom Rob is associated in the radio work, obtained an import license for a Hammond electric organ; and he is turning this license over to our Board, so that we may send this instrument to Argentina. Ours is an enviable privilege, because not many import licenses are available for these instruments—considered decidedly luxury items in Argentina.

A Home for the Bylers

Because of the opportunities which presented themselves, and in line with counsel given us by other experienced mission workers, it was thought best not to include the Bylers' residence in the headquarters building when it was purchased. Since Rob is related to all of the work in Argentina, it would be unwise to locate him with one particular church. Then too, a North American missionary is enough the center of attraction, without placing him and his family in the "bird cage" existence of a home in a church and headquarters building. Now the Board is authorizing the purchase of a separate residence for the Bylers—not too far from the building recently obtained. The gratifying part of the arrangement

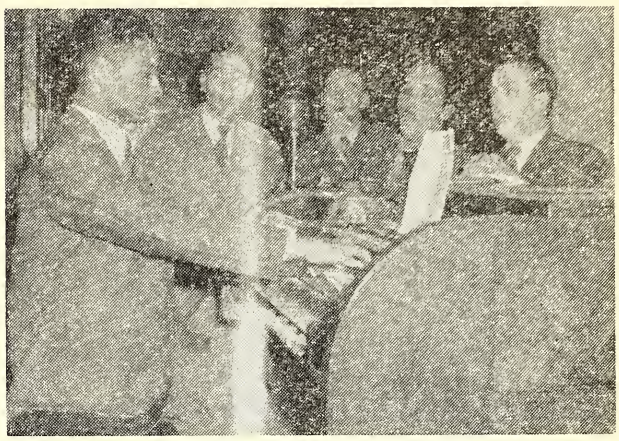
is this: Buying these two buildings separately and remodeling the headquarters will likely cost no more (or very little more) than was estimated originally for a combination of both.

In brief, the Board hopes to have a fine headquarters building, remodeled to fit our program of church services, administrative work and recording for the radio work, as well as an adequate and comfortable home for the Bylers, at what was expected would be the cost of a combination headquarters-residence.

The Greatest Need

It appears that we are beginning to reach some of the goals we have set for ourselves in Argentina, but we still need much more. Offerings must continue to grow and GROW to meet our expanding program; but our biggest offering must come in lives to carry on the missionary endeavor.

The Bylers are our **only** North American missionaries on the field. They **must** have help. Several more couples should work on the field with them; then in a few more years they will be due for another furlough and still others will be needed. Let's give to this important ministry both in money and in lives of young workers.



RADIO QUARTET AND ACCOMPANIST

MEDICINE IN MISSIONS

(Beatrice Bischof)

(Continued from Page 5)

teach them the love of Jesus Christ so that those fears will disappear.

Many evenings I have gone out to the hospital and seen the African hospital worker teaching patients hymns and reading the scriptures to them.

Numerous different tribes from hundreds of miles around come to our hospitals at Lassa and Garkida. There are not only the Margi tribe, but the Higi, Bura, Fulani, Kilba, and Hausa tribes to work with. Many times it does become difficult teaching all these tribes. We have found that the Hausa and the Fulani religious recordings have been of much value in our hospital work. Many Higi people know the Fulani language. Also, we can reach the Muslim people. The boys play these records every Sunday afternoon to the patients. The patients always look forward to this.

Mr. Kulp just wrote us a letter and this is what he said, "Audu and I have been trying to visit some villages near Mubi. In nearly every village we find ex-yaws patients who were treated in Lassa—some as many as 16 years ago. The medical work is surely a wonderful witness—the pity is that we did not follow it up or could not after the patients left the hospital. The harvest still is great and the laborers are still few. Pray, therefore."

Yes, we are rendering much to the African in healing his physical body, but we have to take time from our busy schedule to heal his soul too. We are responsible for every person who goes out of that hospital, and yet I feel many times that we do fail Christ because there isn't enough time to win everyone to Him. As Mr. Kulp said, "If we just had the staff to follow up all these patients after they leave the hospital." We can't make converts in one day or week; sometimes it takes years.

MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

THE MISSIONARY BOARD is greatly encouraged with the interest in missionary service shown by many of our splendid Brethren young people.

There are eight young people (three married couples and two single persons) whose initial applications have been approved by the board. This brings these young folks into a relationship with the board, giving opportunity for counsel and guidance. Out of this relationship grows an understanding of the interest and ability of each candidate. The candidate, in turn, has an opportunity to learn more about the work in our two fields, the urgent needs as well as the personal requirements necessary for effective missionary service. This leads ultimately to discovering the possible field and general nature of the work that might be done if and when the candidate gets onto the field. In the meantime, the candidate receives counsel and guidance relative to his course of study and his training.

Psychological and physical examinations are given rather early in order to ascertain in part the ability of the candidate to meet certain necessary requirements. Both phychological and physical difficulties can often be corrected if found in time.

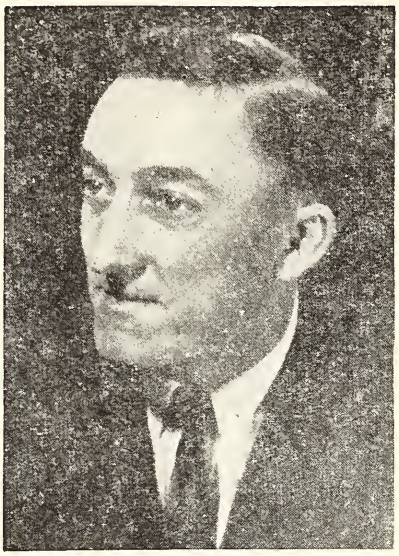
MR. AND MRS. CHARLES KRAFT

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kraft are missionary candidates now studying at Kennedy School of Missions at Hartford, Connecticut. They are in addition to the eight other candidates mentioned.

The Krafts are taking special work in linguistics looking forward to working in Africa when all requirements have been fulfilled. Mr. Kraft has a semester's work in the Seminary at Ashland to do in order to complete his B.D. degree. The present plans are for him to enroll at Ashland this fall for this final semester of work.

ASSIGNMENT --- Nigeria

GLENN and JEAN SHANK



AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS of rather migratory living, the Shanks—Glenn, Jean and Dennis— have settled, for the time being at Waka.

The Shanks reached Nigeria last September, then spent some time in Jos, Garkida and Marama, before receiving their permanent assignment to Waka. Of course, they recognize that they have much to learn (including a new language) before they can reach a maximum of effectiveness in the work, but they are adjusting splendidly to their surroundings and assignments.

Jean has been appointed acting head mistress at the girls' school; she also teaches a number of classes and conducts a clinic for the girls. Doc is teaching some classes in the girls' school and the remainder of his schedule is occupied with teaching in the boys' school, working in athletic programs and performing other miscellaneous tasks delegated to him.

As they learn the language used in the area, the Shanks will doubtless assume more responsibilities in spiritual leadership. They have remained in good health these first months, and that is considerably in their favor; in fact, they seem to be making the adjustments that are necessary, when one is transplanted into entirely different surroundings, with a minimum of difficulty.

Letters from Glenn and Jean testify to their feeling of "at-home-ness" in Nigeria and their love for the work. Doc writes:

"The folks have been very wonderful to us here, and we've been enjoying our stay." "Jean and I feel a real challenge in accepting this new work. We trust the Lord will use us in a small way at least to help bring a new day for the Northern Nigerians." ". . . District meeting was a memorable occasion for us—especially communion, which took on a new meaning for us." " . . . their friendly smile, genial greeting and enthusiastic singing (speaking of Nigerians), make us feel much at home. One receives a sense of mission and breathes a prayer for God's help and a prayer of thanks for having been called to this great land."

The Shanks' entire attitude and beginning in the work gives credence to the statement they made before going to the field: **"We are willing to go wherever the Lord sends us."** We believe He is using them.

CONSTRUCTION AT MBORORO, NIGERIA, TO BEGIN

Word has come from the field in Nigeria stating that it would be expedient to put down the foundations for some of the first buildings on the new Mbororo station soon. Both the season of the year and the availability of a builder are factors favorable to getting this work started within the next few months.

It is necessary to put down the concrete foundations during the rainy season in order to have the proper drying conditions. Then, too, because the furlough of one of the missionary builders is coming up, it is urgent to get some of the construction under way.

The Woman's Missionary Society has raised the money for the construction of buildings on this new station among the Higi people.

Easter Greetings from Veda Liskey

Dear friends in Christ,

In the early days of Christianity Easter was the greatest festival of the Christian year. The Roman Christians called it "Dominicia Guadii," meaning "Joyful Sunday." On that day all customary forms of salutation were laid aside and as Christian met Christian he would say, "Christ is risen." And back came the joyful response, "He is risen indeed."

Around the world even today we are saying in word and deed and do bear testimony to the glorious fact that Christ is risen indeed. In cathedral and in mud thatched-roofed churches Christians burst forth in many languages, "Christ the Lord is risen today." From the lips and hearts of missionaries and new Christians alike comes the affirmation, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

We often forget that every Sunday should be a reminder that Christ is risen; and even though it is some time until Easter Day, these thoughts are timely in that every Sunday is "Easter Day."

. . . I have no teaching this term but even so I'm very busy with the regular dispensary work and am so happy to have some extra time for things I wanted to do last year—such as regular prenatal and better-babies clinics, etc. I'm also giving out dried milk to about 25 babies and small children. I miss the contact with students that teaching affords, but with the frequent change in staff, I'll probably be back in the classroom next term.

. . . I can't tell you how much I'm enjoying my "Brethren" neighbors, the Shanks. They live down a long hill, across a creek, and up a hill from me. They are filling a great need on our staff here. Jean is headmistress of the girls' school and has a full teaching load. Glenn teaches in both girls' and training schools. He also has charge of athletics. They are studying Bura on the side. We certainly praise God for guiding them to Waka.

In closing I solicit your prayers for the personal health, wisdom, and guidance which we all need in order to do our work effectively. I thank you again, each one for the wonderful part you have had and are having in making our work possible here in Nigeria. May God bless you for sharing in material ways that enable us to tell the Easter story. Will you continue to pray for all Christians and the Church of Christ in this needy land?

May the joy of Easter continue throughout the year.

In His glad service,

Veda Liskey.

News Briefs from Argentina

RECENTLY we have received some splendid business communications from the Bylers in Argentina. These were greatly appreciated since they arrived in time for the quarterly board meeting.

We quote briefly from their last letter.

"We had a wonderful Camp period again this year with almost an average of 70 in attendance for the 15 day period. My cousin, Frank Byler of the Mennonites, and Dr. Frederick Huegel helped out in a wonderful way with classes and preaching services. All the young people were very happy with the ministry of these two, and a time of spiritual refreshing was strongly felt. Huegel's ministry is of tremendous value. He will return to the States this summer when he retires from active work on the field. We hope the Brethren at home may be able to enjoy his ministry some time.

" . . . Jane in her letter, clarified the use to which this new property is being put. All of our services are being realized there. It is ever so much better. We hope that when construction begins, we'll be able to go about it in such a manner that in one part of the building, services can continue to be held. I believe that the Proposed Plan will be self explanatory.

"We certainly appreciate the Board's concern and vision in this need and appreciate too the help of the W. M. S. on the project."

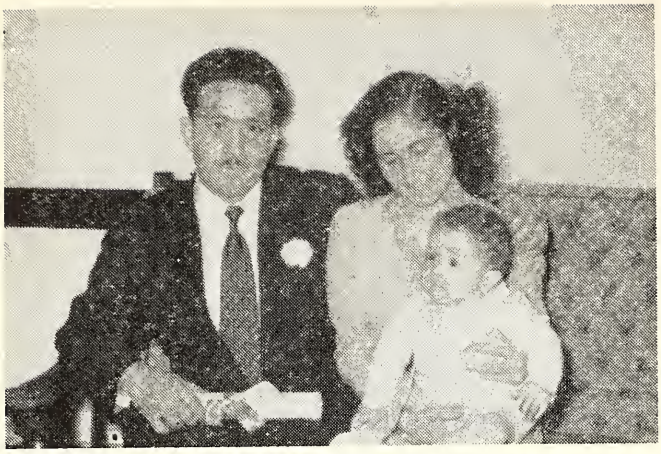
OUR GRATITUDE

The Missionary Board and the Brethren Church are greatly indebted to Mr. Harold Stacy and Reverend Nelson Litwiller for the help which they have given in our Argentine work.

Mr. Stacey is the Exchange Manager for one of the largest industrial concerns in Argentina and has given wise counsel to our representative, Mr. Robert Byler, in many important matters. Mr. Stacey also plays an important role in the evangelical radio work which he helped to get started. Through his counsel and influence the Brethren Church in Argentina now has an unusual opportunity to reach thousands of people with the Gospel through the medium of the radio.

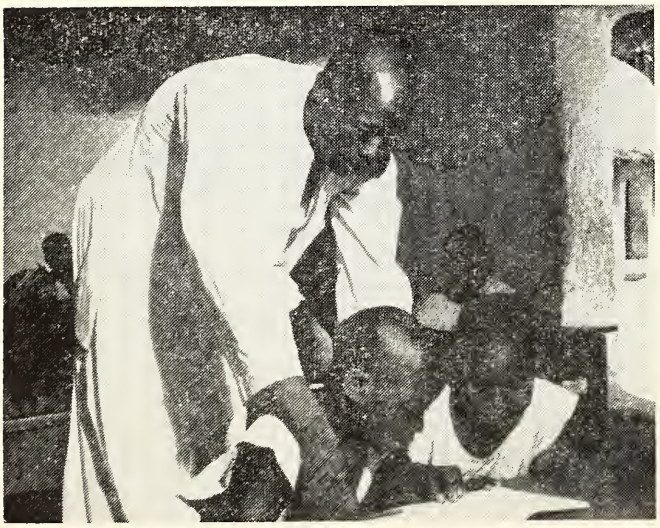
Reverend Nelson Litwiller, General Secretary of the Mennonite Board of Missions and charities in South America, has assisted both Reverend Byler and our Board in many urgent business matters and has taken time to meet with our national workers for consultation and with our Board here in Ashland on several occasions.

We are most grateful to both Mr. Stacey and Reverend Litwiller for their genuine Christian spirit of helpfulness, and we pray that the Lord will bless them in their daily tasks.—W. C. B.



PASTOR RICARDO RIVERO and FAMILY
Gerli, Argentina

CHURCH GROUP—Rosario, Argentina



MISSION SCHOOL TEACHER and PUPILS

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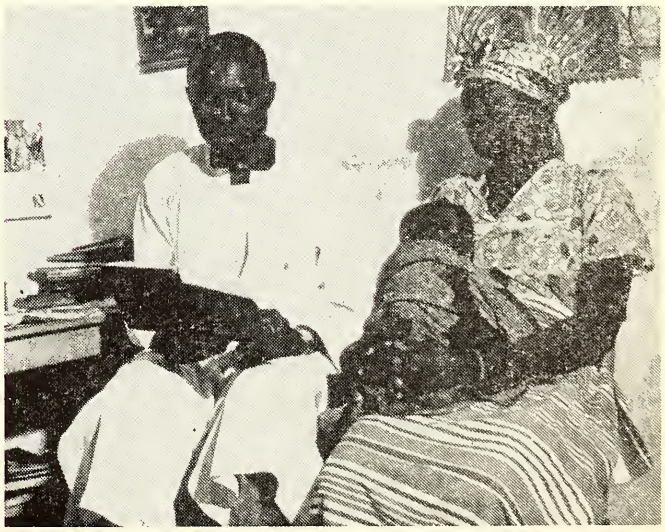
NIGERIAN CHRISTIAN TEACHERS

ARGENTINA CAMP YOUTH and COUNSELLOR BYLER



NIGERIAN CHRISTIAN FAMILY

New Testament Doctrines Believed and Practised by People Called Brethren.

By L. O. McCartneysmith

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Theme: "For then shall be Great Tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21).

* * *

Part II

(Continued from two weeks ago)

V. THE OPENING OF THE FIFTH SEAL

In the opening of this Seal, neither horse nor rider ventures forth. Instead, we are permitted with John to look into the world of departed Spirits, where, beneath an Altar or place of worship, we are permitted to view the souls of Martyrs who were slain for the Word of God, and the testimony that they presented during the Great Tribulation. We hear their prayers to God regarding the time that He will avenge their blood upon their murderers. These are some of the many who were converted during the Great Tribulation, and died under the extreme persecution of the World Emperor, whom we have described under the second, third, and fourth seals of the Revelation. We are not informed just where this Altar is, but it seems reasonable to say that it was typified by the Altar of Sacrifice; for had not these sacrificed their lives for God's Word and for their testimony of Jesus Christ. These were told that they should rest "a little season" until their fellow-servants and their Brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled: that is that their fellow servants (Gentile Christians), and Brethren (Jews) were slain likewise; clearly indicating that these martyrs were of both Jew and Gentile!

VI. THE OPENING OF THE SIXTH SEAL

Relative to the revelation of the Sixth Year, proponents of the various schools of interpretation, widely disagree. Here are a few of their opinions: Elliott, of the Consecutive Historical School, claims that the Sixth Seal betokens some sudden and extraordinary revolution in the Roman Empire, arising from the triumph of the Christian cause. All this, he claims took place during the reign of Constantine, and calls it the dissolution of the Pagan firmament, and the expressions concerning the earthquake and heavenly firmament being all taken metaphorically as referring to political changes. Regarding this, it is all so puerile that it is unworthy of a moment's consideration.

Alford, of the Continuous Historical School, says: "We may unhesitatingly set down as wrong all interpretations which view as the fulfillment of this passage any period excepting that of the coming of the Lord." The great difference between the view of Alford, and those of the Futurist School is that he believes that the Saints will go through the Tribulation period, and be caught up at the close of the Tribulation just before the Lord descends; while the Futurist School thinks of the Saints being caught up before the Great Tribulation, and the coming of the Lord here under discussion, occuring at the close of the Tribulation, some years, usually figured as seven, after the Rapture. In addition, Alford says: "Thus we are brought to the very threshold of the great day of the Lord's coming, but before His coming, the elect must be gathered out." There is much food for thought here, but not enough to satisfy, because the Seventh Seal is still to be opened before the Lord comes to judge the world.

Dusterdieck says: "It is the catastrophe of the final judgment, the finale of this world's history." Neither will this stand the microscopic examination of applied Scripture. World government does not end until the Antichrist has been bound, which will not occur until Christ comes as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. It is at the Battle of Armageddon that this Emperor is taken (Rev. 19:17-20). Therefore Dusterdieck is wrong.

What then does the Opening of the Sixth Seal present? By carefully reading this entire chapter we may make the correct discovery. In Revelation 6:12, 13, 14 we find that Supernatural Power is shown to wicked men through God's disturbing the entire planetary system, earth, sun, moon and stars, which is beyond the power of man. It would appear that God rolled back the heaven so that wicked men could see God on His Throne, with Jesus at His Right Hand, because these same wicked men prayed to the rocks and mountains: "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Revelation 6:16-17).

The events covered by this chapter (Rev. 6:12-17), apparently mark the opening of the "pouring out" of God's wrath upon sinful men and women who did not possess the "seal of God" on their foreheads (See Rev. 7:2-14), who were doubtless witnesses of this display of God's great power, because it is recorded in the chapter following that they were "sealed" or "made safe." Paul informs the Romans that: "Much more then, being now justified by

His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him" (Romans 5:9). All Raptured Saints were saved from God's wrath which is to be "poured out" upon sinful men near the close of this period of Great Tribulation. Therefore, it was necessary for God to "seal," or make safe, the Tribulation Saints, who had doubtless witnessed this great display of God's great Power.

The great destructive power of God's impending wrath is suggested in the angel descending from the east with the seal of the living God, who cried with a loud voice: "Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads" (Rev. 7:2-3). Sealing them, making them safe . . . saving them from God's great wrath, which is "poured out" during the final year, or seventh seal, which is God's vengeance, for which the souls of the Tribulation Martyrs had prayed as related in Rev. 6:9-11.

The purpose of this "sealing" has been the topic of much discussion among the various schools of Interpretation; however, if we confine our thinking to the correct location of this "sealing" it should remove much of the disagreement, concerning this, and also as to who it is that are to be sealed. Some expositors, such as Alford, Bengel, DeWette, Faussett, and others claim exemption from tribulation of the impending visitations. Others: Elliott, Heinrichs, Gaebeilin, and Scofield, claim that it is not "exemption," from tribulation, but "preservation" in tribulation; however Stuart claims emphatically that it is being made secure against "all harm." Irrespective of all these ideas, it seems reasonable that these will be kept throughout the Tribulation, else there would be none to hear His welcome: "Come ye blessed of my Father, and inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34).

Now as to who it is that will be "sealed" or made secure. Continuing the recital of this event we read the 9th verse of this 7th chapter, that John beheld "A great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and tongues, standing before the throne, and before the lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands" (Rev. 7:9). Then we read in Rev. 7:14 just who these are: "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." Therefore it is easily seen that undoubtedly this great multitude were also of the number that were "sealed" or made safe for the balance of the Great Tribulation. It would seem that the reason the names of each of the 12 tribes were mentioned in the sealing of Israel, that most of them were known as "The Lost Tribes, or the 10 lost tribes:" however, practically all of the leading interpreters of various schools state that **Jewish Christians alone were sealed."** Supporting this idea are: Faussett, Dusterdieck, Gaebelein, Torrey, and practically all Futurists. However, it does not seem reasonable that God would protect the Jewish Christians, and leave Gentile Christians helpless. As evidence of this statement, we have in Rev. 14:1, the statement that these 144,000 stood upon Mt. Zion, which is here on earth, **"having His Father's name written in their foreheads."** Then in Rev. 22:4, that **"And they shall see His face; and His name shall be written in their foreheads." Here John seems to be speaking of all the Redeemed, Jews and Gentiles alike, as "His Servants"** (Rev. 22:3).

Now as to where this "sealing" took place. Let us recall that in Rev. 6:14, we read that: "The heaven departed as a scroll that is rolled together." That is the reason for all wicked men crying out: **"Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the Throne." Doubtless the Throne of God was in plain view both to them and also to God's Tribulation Saints. Therefore we can see them, "standing before the throne."** Perhaps that is why the wicked asked the question: "And who shall be able to stand?" Stand where? Before the throne! Although these were standing before the throne of God, they were still here on earth, where they were "sealed," or made safe for the duration of the Great Tribulation.

Throughout the Opening of the entire period covered by the Opening of the Six Seals, God has permitted evil mankind to have his way, and persecute Jew and Gentile Christians; but now in the opening of the last, or Seventh Seal, God will have His way, and will pour out His Wrath upon evil men. This will be covered in another treatise.

—Cumberland, Maryland.

THERE IS A SPECIAL little bit of land in this world which has for me very precious memories. It covers an area of about eighty miles south of the English-Scottish border. There you can walk over the ruins of Hadrian's wall, once the limit of the Roman empire in England. You can conjure up in your mind the tremendous events of those days when the power of Rome reached that very spot.

If you go round that district you will find very many old and ancient towers, some of them in complete ruins, others of them beautifully preserved almost as they were. If you ask why it is that some of them are in ruins and some are in good condition, you will be told this story. Several hundred years ago England and Scotland were at bitter enmity, and the English in Northumberland were constantly being attacked by the Scots, who carried away their cattle and stole their crops. Therefore the English built castles near the border to defend themselves. Some of those castles had secret springs that provided a constant flow of water. Other castles had to receive their water supply through a pipe from a well many hundreds of yards away. The Scottish invaders were astute enough to know what to do—they would cut the pipe, then sit around the fortress and wait until the people inside died of starvation and thirst. But those who had a secret spring in their castles were invincible. So those castles stand until this day as living reminders of their invincibility. The other castles lie in ruins.

Every one of us has within him a fountain of life, but there are Christians who have not discovered it. Many are always going outside themselves: outside for amusement and ease, for luxury and indulgence, and, before long, their Christian life stands in utter ruins. But there are other children of God who have learned that the only way of possessing the land and holding on to the grace which God in Christ has given them is to draw continuously on the inner secret fountain of life. They can say with all their hearts that Jesus satisfies.—Alan Redpath, in **Victorious Christian Living,** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE ROBES OF JESUS

PSALM 45:8 speaks of Christ's robe in the kingdom of God scented with myrrh (divinity), aloes (divine sorrow), and cassia (healing power). This robe is kept in the "ivory palaces" (preserved in Glory). Isaiah 63:1-3 speaks of our Saviour's garments stained with His own precious blood as He tread the winepress of God's wrath against sin (Rev. 19:13). The allusion here is to David's soldiers returning with bloody garments from a stiff battle with Edom. We are bidden to "touch the hem of His garment" which He wore in Mark 5:27.—

"For the sinsick there is mercy
For the heavy laden rest,
For the prisoner there is freedom,
Comfort for the sore distressed.
Only trust Him, He will heal you.
Come for there is nought to pay;
You and I may touch His garment,
For He's healing still today."

After we have touched the healing garment of Christ we may be clothed with the Garment of His Righteousness (Matt. 22:11). We who caused His garments to be dyed red in suffering and sorrow are now intreated to be clothed with His righteousness (Rom. 3:22; James 2:23; 1 Cor. 1:30). This is the "best robe" which was worn by the returned prodigal (Luke 15:22).

Because of our interest in the crucifixion of Jesus we may be more familiar with the coat which "was without seam, woven from the top throughout" (John 19:23). Let us be sure we are interested in the spiritual truth that God has for us in this robe, which the executioners by custom cast lots for possession (John 19:24). Jesus as the Lamb of God was slain for sinners at the very hour for the slaughter of passover lambs (John 19:14, 31). He bore our curse for sin that day (Gal. 3:13). He was "pierced" according to prophecy (Psalm 22:16). Sinners beheld what they had done (John 19:37; Zech. 12:10). Not a bone of His was broken because He became our Passover (John 19:36); Ex. 12:46; 1 Cor. 5:7). Every prophesied detail of the crucifixion was fulfilled even to the parting of his garments and the casting of lots for His vesture (Psalm 22:18).

The guilty sinners of Eden clothed themselves with aprons of fig leaves (Gen. 3:7). But man's righteousness is as rags in God's sight (Isaiah 64:6). So God clothed them with skins (Gen. 3:21), which denotes that a sacrifice of animals for sin had been made. The seamless robe was becoming to Jesus who was sinless (John 8:46; Luke 23:40, 41). Peter, James and John were enraptured to see Christ in His transfiguration raiment (Matt. 17:2), which spoke of His heavenly glory and second coming (2 Peter 1:16). His heavenly garments are pictured in detail in Revelation 1:13-16.

In washing the disciples' feet our Saviour laid aside His garments (John 13:4) and girded Himself with a towel. Thus He laid aside His garments of glory to come to earth to become "obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:6-8). After He had washed His disciples' feet He took up His garments and sat down (John 13:12; Phil. 2:9-11). He purposes to keep His church cleansed and holy (Eph. 5:26, 27).

Christ died a voluntary death (John 10:17, 18). Pilate had no power except by God's permission (John 19:11). He lay down His life by choice (John 19:30; Luke 24:46). To take a sinner's place He had to be stripped of His seamless robe (2 Cor. 5:21). Stripped of His robe He was like a sheep before a shearer (Isa. 53:7). In saving others He could not spare Himself (Matt. 27:42). With the sin of the whole world laid upon Him he was speechless (Isa. 53:6, 7). He was forsaken of God in judgment (Matt. 27:46). This all had to transpire so He could be "OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS" (Jer. 23:6). He shed His coat that we might be covered (Rom. 4:7, 8). Thus was all carried out according to the divine plan (Psalm 22:18).

"My hope must have His righteousness,
For it can rest on nothing less."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for March 25, 1956

THE MEANING OF CHRIST'S SUFFERING

Lesson: Luke 23:4-18, 39-43

CONTEMPLATING THE CROSS OF CALVARY and our Suffering Savior, we would say with the poet:

" 'Man of Sorrows', what a name
For the Son of God who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim!
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood,
Sealed my pardon with His blood;
Hallelujah! what a Savior!"

Asking my Savior why He would consent to suffer the rebuffs of men—the agony of the cruel cross—He would say: "It was for YOU! For YOU I willingly submitted to the tauntings of the crowds; the mockery of the trial; the print of the nails in my hands and feet; the sharp thrust of the spear in my side! For YOU I **suffered** and **bled** and **died!**

And then we hear from of old the mighty voice of Isaiah the Prophet speaking to us: "But He was wounded for **our** transgressions, He was bruised for **our** iniquities:

the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

Let's go back, however, to see the events which led up to the cross. The intense hatred of the religious leaders for Jesus Christ mounted day by day as they saw the small group of followers grow steadily until it became a great multitude.

Something must be done about this man! He would have to be stopped! "And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill Him" (Luke 22:2). It was not difficult to do. Judas Iscariot became their willing tool. He did his dastardly act and betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.

It might be well to pause here to think upon Judas' foul deed. Judas—a man willing to sell his Master for less than $25.00! How could he do it! Such a man deserves the worst that could come to him! BUT WAIT! **With all honesty we must blushingly admit some have willfully betrayed the Son of God for far less than this! Many Christians have been guilty of failing the Master time and time again. Many have refused to acknowledge Him before the godless factory crowd with whom they work! Many have shunned a God-given opportunity to speak out and defend the One whom they profess to love and serve! How great should be our shame!**

Delivered into the hands of the chief priests, Christ was quickly taken before the rulers, mocked and scourged, and then nailed upon Calvary's Cross.

This they did in spite of the fact they had no evidence of misconduct on Christ's part. Pilate's testimony was this: "I find no fault in this man . . . Nothing worthy of death is done unto Him" (Luke 23:4, 15).

Yet the crowd of people cried: "Crucify Him, crucify Him."

And "they crucified Him."

Again we ask Him why He had to die. Again we hear Him say: "It was for YOU!"

"Lifted up was He to die,
'It is finished,' was His cry;
Now in heav'n exalted high,
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

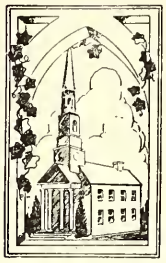
When He comes, our glorious King,
All His ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we'll sing,
Hallelujah! what a Savior!"

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFERING
(Easter)

Make checks payable to The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.



What's Doing in the Churches

FIRESTONE PARK, AKRON, OHIO

Just a few words to let you know that we are still on the map. This has been a busy winter. The church allowed me to hold two outside Revival meetings: A one week meeting at North Georgetown and a two week meeting at Gratis, Ohio. The people at both churches were good listeners and manifested interest in the work of the Church. At North Georgetown, delegations attended from Louisville, Canton, Smithville, and Akron. At Gratis delegations attended from New Lebanon and West Alexandria. Rev. Garland, Pastor of the West Alexandria Brethren Church, led the singing several nights. On the other nights different people in the local church led the singing. The pastors, Rev. Donald Rowser at North Georgetown and Rev. M. W. Dodds, our son at Gratis, drove the car in making calls on prospects and in homes of the members, and to various homes where the pastor and evangelist enjoyed fine Christian fellowship and meals fit for kings. When the membership of any church unites in Christian co-operation, that church is sure to grow spiritually. We prophesy that these two churches will make much progress in the Lord's work in days that lie ahead.

Following these two meetings we held a two week Revival Meeting in the Akron Brethren Church. Then came Christmas programs; semi-annual Business Meeting in January; Public services of the Official Board in January, and the Boys' Brotherhood public service in February. Sunday evening March 18th the Brethren Youth will give their Public Service (The National Youth Director, Rev. Stogsdill, will be guest). The W. M. S. is preparing a Passion Week play for Palm Sunday evening and the Choir is preparing an Easter Cantata for Easter Sunday evening. The Choir will assist the pastor in giving the Resurrection Message on Easter Sunday morning. Passion Week services will be held each night from Palm Sunday to Easter. Our faithful choir director is Oliver M. Parker.

At the January Business Meeting the church unanimously passed two motions which challenged the pastor to work harder than ever during the year 1956. The first motion was to give the pastor a $260.00 increase in salary for the year 1956. The second motion was for the pastor to hold the Passion Week services, or, if he wanted to to get another minister to assist during the week. Such expressions of confidence are encouraging to any minister. Our heart, abounding in love, goes out to a church membership that exercises such loyal support in sincere love and Christian co-operation. May they abound in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. May nothing be done in any way to hinder

their efforts unto the onward march and progress in the Lord's mighty work.

Our 1956 theme is, "Spiritual Development through Christian Co-operation." As a part of the program on this theme, our Wednesday night services will deal largely with training for Church Membership. We are using the booklet "The Way of Life," published by the Brethren Publishing Company.

The N. E. O. L. Rally was held in our church in January—Arlie McCart was the speaker. Sunday morning February 12, Rolf Stolpner was guest speaker. His message was interesting and well received. It was very challenging.

During 1955 an Organ and Carpet were presented to and installed in the church. These are a big help in the worship services of the church. At present the Young Adult Bible Class is working on a Choir Robe Project. The robes are expected to be in use and dedicated on Easter Sunday. The organ and carpet were given by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Dunn.

J. G. Dodds.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING

On March 25th, we will begin our Evangelistic Meetings with Rev. H. E. Eppley of Winona Lake, Indiana, as our Evangelist. He and his wife are presently in Los Angeles, California, and will stay over here for the meetings.

We also plan to hold our 10th Annual Worship Service and Easter Morning breakfast. Services 6:00 A. M. Breakfast 6:30. There were 93 present last year. We plan to make this the best ever.

The Laymen took charge of the evening service on March 4th and did a nice job. The Ladies' Mission of which Mrs. Garber is President had charge of the Sunday evening March 11th service.

The Church is doing very well, having baptized and taken into the church nine new members since October 23rd, adding three new families, none of which were church going folk. We praise the Lord for victories won for His testimony.

Just now the Laymen are enclosing a kitchen in the basement of the Church and plan to finish the basement before fall when the District Conference will be held here.

I am recuperating very nicely. Have filled the pulpit the past two Sunday mornings.

Frank W. Garber.

Wedding Announcement

HILEMAN-MICHAEL. Saturday evening, February 4, 1956, Kenneth Eugene Hileman and Clara Jo Michael were united in marriage. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Michael and the bridegroom, a son of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Hileman, all of Gratis, Ohio. The ceremony was solemnized in the First Brethren Church of Gratis, Ohio, by this writer, who baptized each of the parties April 17, 1949 during his tenure as Pastor, who read the double ring ritual.

William S. Crick.

* * *

GARLAND-FUDGE. Gail Garland, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. H. R. Garland, and David Fudge, were united in marriage Sunday afternoon, February 19th, in the West Alexandria, Ohio, Brethren Church, by the bride's father. The couple will make their home at present with Mrs. Maude Tullis, of Farmersville, the groom's grandmother.

H. R. Garland, Pastor.

Laid to Rest

THOMPSON. William H. Thompson, 93, entered into rest while he peacefully slept Friday night, February 24, 1956, at the home of a son-in-law and daughter in Columbus, Ohio. Funeral services were held the following Monday, in Columbus by this writer, assisted by the Pastor of the daughter whose family had been caring for him in his advanced years. Soon after our having been located in Newark, where Mr. Thompson was then living, he sought us out and requested baptism by trine immersion, which was arranged. At the age of 92, he underwent a real experience of salvation, which remained a great source of comfort during his remaining years. Brother Thompson became the "first fruits" of the Missionary Board's work in Newark, and he now becomes the first of the group of thirty to join the Church Triumphant.

William S. Crick.

* * *

GEISON. Mrs. George W. (Anna Laura) Geison, born Dec. 9, 1875, departed from this life, Feb. 25, 1956. Funeral services held in the Brethren Church, Lanark, Illinois, Feb. 27th. She was a loyal and faithful member, and attendant when health permitted, of the Lanark Church. Survived by one sister, Mrs. Rosa Hepner, of Lanark.

H. Francis Berkshire.

* * *

Following is a list of funerals I have had recently.

BROWN. Vern Brown, 81, well known farmer in Flora vicinity, for many years a member of the Flora Brethren Church, died Sept. 6, 1955, following a long illness. Survived by his wife, Mable, two sons and one daughter. Services conducted in the Brethren Church at Flora.

JORDAN. Robert Jordan, 42, prominent business man in Flora, died very suddenly on Sept. 9, 1955. Survived by wife, Isabelle, and two daughters. Member of the Christian Church.

PRICE. Jesse Price, 82, life long resident of Elkhart County, member Nappanee Brethren Church, died Oct. 29, 1955. Survived by wife, Myrtle, three sons and one daughter. Services at Nappanee Brethren Church.

KUNS. Mrs. Fannie Kuns, 80, widow of Amos Kuns, died suddenly at her home in Flora. Very active in the

church for many years, served as deaconess and was an active member of the W. M. S. Survived by one son and one daughter. Services in the Church, Dec. 23, 1955.

FLORA. Albert Flora, for many years a business man in Flora, died at his home following a lingering illness of several years. Member of the Brethren Church at Flora. Survived by his wife, Gladys, and one daughter. Services at the Carter Funeral Home in Flora, Dec. 30, 1955.

WISE. Mrs. Cora Wise, 85, faithful member of the Church for many years, died following surgery, LaFayette, Ind. Widow of David Wise. Survived by three sons. Services in the Church, Feb 6, 1956.

SCOTT. Mrs. Esther Scott, 74, died in Logansport, Ind. Member of the Brethren Church, Mexico, Ind. Widow of Otto Scott. Survived by several children. Services in the Drake-Flower funeral home, Peru, Ind., Jan. 24, 1956.

JORDAN. Gilbert Jordan, 77, resident of The Brethren's Home, Flora, died suddenly Feb. 18, 1956. Survived by two sons. Member of the Brethren Church at Flora. One time Postmaster at Flora, school teacher, and more recently, door keeper in the Indiana State House, Indianapolis. Service held in the Leiter Funeral Home, Flora.

HICKS. Arthur Hicks, 62, died at his home, Battle Ground, Ind., following a long illness. Member, Brethren Church of Flora. Survived by his wife and several children. Services in the Methodist Church, Battle Ground, Dec. 3, 1955.

C. A. Stewart.

WITH THE LAYMEN

WARSAW, INDIANA

The laymen of the Brethren Church of Warsaw, Indiana, met in the church basement the evening of January 23, 1956, for a fine fellowship supper of cornbread, ham and beans served by the W. M. S. of the Church. Following the business meeting conducted by our president, Robert Frush, and devotions by our pastor, Rev. Robert Holsinger, Mr. Owen Horn introduced as our speakers of the evening, Max Miller, of Nappanee, Secretary for the National Laymen's Organization, and Vern Meek, president of the Nappanee Laymen's Organization. Each gave very interesting speeches. An enjoyable evening was spent by all.

Doyle Webb, Chairman, Goals Committee,
Warsaw (Indiana) Laymen's Organization.

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

NO DETOURS ON THE ROAD TO GOD

"And put no difference between us and them." Acts 15:9.

THE WAY TO GOD is a straight and open road. There are no detours on that road. Men have endeavored to establish detours. Already in the time of the Apostles the Pharisees insisted that the Gentile must first become a Jew before he could become a Christian. Peter said that no detour like that was necessary, insisting that God admitted Gentiles and Jews on the same level. "There is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him."

And the Master issued His invitation to the sharing of the blessings of His kingdom in the memorable words "Come unto me ALL ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." A converted native in a heathen land gave this testimony: "It is almost unbelievable that I can say my own prayers unto God. Always have I been taught that a paid priest must say my prayers for me. There is much I will tell God now that I would never tell the priests." There is no detour in the soul's approach to God.

The approach to God may be "straight and narrow" but it is paved with all the rich promises of God. And as it is easier to drive a machine on a straight—though narrow—road without detours, so also it is easier to travel the "straight and narrow" road to God. And as it is wise to heed all the road signs, placed along the highways to facilitate safety and satisfaction in traveling, so also is it necessary to observe the warnings and directions on the road of life. Speed limits, crossing warnings, stop signs, granting of the right-of-way to half of the road to other motorists,—the road is STRAIGHT, AND NO DETOURS. For the greatest dangers in life are contained in the attempted detours from the "straight and narrow" road of God's will.

Ashland College News

According to the latest enrollment figures released by Mr. Harold Clarke, Registrar of Ashland College enrollment for second semester has surpassed the corresponding semester of last year by 13.8%. Figures released show that day school enrollment is 495 which includes full time, part time and seminary students. Evening division attendance is 269, which makes a grand total of 764 enrolled for second semester.

Applications are now being received for summer session which opens on June 12 and for the first semester of 1956-57 fall session which opens on Monday September 17. Applications should be sent to Director of Admissions, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

BACK TO THE BIBLE

SOME OF YOU may listen to the "Back to the Bible Broadcast" from Lincoln, Nebraska. It is spread all over the United States by many networks, guaranteeing everyone the opportunity to hear the Word of God. The title of the program is a practical one: "Back to the Bible." There is no greater need in America, in the world, today than to get back to the Bible. People everywhere would discover that their cares would dissolve if they once again took to reading the Bible. I used to think that some people read their Bibles regularly just to convince themselves that they really were living close to God—a rather dangerous attitude, but I was guilty. I found it difficult to sit down and read the Bible regularly, for my mind was always busy on something and the Bible seemed to break the chain of thought. Sometimes I found the reading even rather uninteresting, as I am sure you will agree that there are times when certain portions of the Chronicles, or the Proverbs or some other portions don't arouse a great interest.

But to say that just because there are times when one doesn't feel like reading the Bible it follows that it will do no good to read it, is like saying that food will do us no good if we don't have a ravishing appetite, or that water will not make us clean because we are tired and don't feel like washing. If we are too busy to read God's Word, we are too busy! It isn't God's fault that we have neglected Him and His Word and gotten ourselves too busy to learn of Him. It isn't God who is going to suffer or regret it if we come down to the end of life—and that may be any moment—no better off spiritually than we were when we first began this journey called the New Birth. Satan is keen on keeping the mind of the Christian too busy to remember God. Like Peter walking on the water, he wants us to take our eyes off Jesus.

Though the portion of Scripture which we read may be short, and the amount we retain be small, the habit will be formed and gradually increase in our daily lives until we find that to do without a portion of Scripture is like doing without water or food, or without washing. Then. too, the reading of the Word each time as if it were the first time suggests new ideas and brings home deeper truths which will in turn excite greater interest in the Bible. You will find yourself living for the minutes when you can return in the quiet of the day to hear Him speak through His Word to you.

REFRESHING EXPERIENCE

What makes us so sour in spirit? Why do we feel this way—no desire to read the Bible, no genuine love for our fellow man, no zeal or eagerness to get things done in the spirit?

How do you suppose you would feel in your body if you had not bathed all winter, or taken a walk now and then? How would you feel if all you had eaten is what you could pick up that others have prepared and thrown out when it is cold? Think about it, and you will see why you have that "run down" feeling in spirit. The desert is dry because it has no rain. The soul becomes just as dry without the "washing of water by the Word."

How long has it been since you felt young in spirit? Have you ever had as moving an experience in your soul as that when you first accepted the Lord as your Saviour? Instead of talking about "that experience" you had **back there**, can you speak of an experience this week? If not, then the answer is the Bible. Open its covers again. Feel the refreshing rain dropping down from heaven. Bathe in the promises of forgiveness and renewed strength. Feed on it again. FEEL LIKE NEW AGAIN!

Not long ago in a Sunday School where I attended a man argued with the Word of God about a principle which had to do with succeeding in life. He argued as if he had never heard of God's side of the question before, as if the statement in God's word were preposterous. He claims to be a Christian, but such ignorance! He needs the Word of God to find lodging in his heart. He no longer would be bothered about business successes and failures. There can be no sad sacks when they read the refreshing word. There would be no more sour pusses if God's promises were read and believed.

SOUND RECORDS OF SCRIPTURE

A relatively new thing in our society is the recording of the Bible on plastic records. This I believe we will in time discover to be a wonderful idea. When one studies a modern language he must learn to read, speak and **hear** the language before he is considered a master of it. I learned that a tape recorder does wonders in the learning of another language (as much as I have learned!). Most of us are poor readers, especially of the Bible. The reason we get so little from it is that we don't read it properly, putting the correct inflection in and making pauses where they are intended. The recorded passages certainly must be read well or they would not be sold. I believe that it will become a big help in the future to play recordings of the Bible. We will discover that the sound of the message will bring out many truths which heretofore have been hidden all because of our inability to read the Bible properly. From that time on, I predict, our very reading will improve and mean more to us.

THE BIBLE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

If you want to give youth something new, something different, something real and tangible—something they keep calling for and don't get—give them Bible. Their quick minds are more capable of grasping the message than were their forefathers! We have tried everything else and produced mostly juvenile delinquents. Let us now "try" the Bible! Across the land Story Telling Leagues are springing up all over. People love stories. Bible stories are the best the world will ever know. The Bible has the best in every field of literature: history, prose poetry, drama, philosophy—plus one that exists nowhere else—PROPHECY. Do we have an open door? Just try that new substance on your youth: **THE BIBLE.** It is a corrective for every form of evil and maladjustment "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word." (Psalm 119:9).

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

Park Street Brethren Church

Begins .....Tuesday night, April 10th, 7:30
Closes .....Thursday night, April 12th, 8:30
AREAS OF DISCUSSION .....Foreign Missions
Church Finance
Youth Leadership
SPECIAL FEATURES .....Coffee hour
Communion
Time to talk
Good singing

COME FOR INSPIRATION AND INSTRUCTION

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Holy Week Services—**March 25th through April 1st**—Rev. V. E. Meyer, Pastor.

FAIR HAVEN, OHIO. Holy Week Services—**March 28th and 29th**—Rev. Charles Munson, Speaker; Rev. Phil Lersch, Pastor.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. Main Street Brethren. Pre-Easter Evangelistic Services—**Evening of March 25th through March 30th**—Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, Evangelist; Rev. Horace Huse, Pastor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. Wayne Heights Brethren. Pre-Easter Services—**March 28-30**—Rev. D. C. White, Speaker, March 28th; Rev. Lester Meyers, Speaker, March 30th; Rev. N. Victor Leatherman, Pastor.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Holy Week Services—**March 25-30**—Dr. Herman Centz, Speaker; Rev. J. D. Hamel, Pastor.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. Holy Week Services—**March 29-30**—Rev. W. S. Benshoff, Pastor.

TIOSA, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**April 2-15**—Rev. O. C. Lemert, Evangelist; Rev. Wayne E. Swihart, Pastor.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Revival Services—**April 3-15**—Rev. V. D. Geren, Evangelist; Rev. E. J. Black, Pastor.

GATEWOOD, W. VA. Revival Services—**April 2-8**—Rev. Hays K. Logan, Pastor-Evangelist.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING. Evangelistic Meeting—**Beginning March 25th**—Rev. H. E. Eppley, Evangelist; Rev. Frank W. Garber, Pastor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Pre-Easter Services—**March 25th through April 1st**—Rev. Spencer Gentle, Pastor.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Holy Week Services—**March 29-30**—Biblical Drama, "The Thirty Pieces of Silver" Thursday evening; preaching Friday evening; Rev. Bruce C. Shanholtz, Pastor.

HOWE, INDIANA. Brighton Chapel Brethren.—Holy Week Services—**March 28-30**—Messages by Rev. Smith F. Rose, Pastor.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Revival Services—**April 2-15**—Rev. D. C. White, Evangelist; Rev. William D. Keeling, Pastor.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

containing five Sundays, thereby giving to them an opportunity for experience and training.

FAIR HAVEN, OHIO. A note from Brother Phil Lersch says, "We observed a church 'Birthday Party' as a means of having a good time, and also raising money for the Brethren Youth project. This was on March 13th."

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. A Music Festival was held the evening of March 11th featuring music of the combined choirs of the church.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. Rolf Stolpner, German Exchange student at Ashland College, was guest speaker in the Williamstown church the morning of March 4th.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Brother E. J. Black, of the Muncie Church, and Brother Arthur Tinkel, Sr., of the Oakville Church conducted an exchange of pulpits at the morning service on March 11th.

WATERLOO, IOWA. A new cement floor has been poured in the basement of the church.

STOCKTON, CALIF. Mrs. C. E. Johnson writes, "Our Church is going along very nicely, with good interest. Two boys were baptized last month."

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

IN THE HEART'S GARDEN

GARDENING TIME is almost here again. Many of us love a garden, yet most gardens are seasonal. Gardening is important work, from the sowing of the seed to the gathering of the fruit or flowers.

Gratitude is the most charming flower in the garden of the heart. Some flowers of the heart are more delicate, but gratitude has the sweetest fragrance. Appreciation, an every day name for gratitude, is a winner of friendships.

Gratitude is not a mere "thank you" which so many times is passed out as a commonplace courtesy. Only those who bring gifts of love and service know where this flower grows.

Gratitude is a rare flower whose freshness makes life richer, deeper, and fuller. One who plants and tends this flower will have a life full and running over with love and joy and gladness.

This flower grows close to the busy walks of life. It is so simply obtained that it should grow and flourish in every heart. Does God find this flower, gratitude, in the garden of your heart?—From "Food For Thot."

Vera E. Laughlin,
Greencastle, Penna.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

Everyone Needs To Share In Missions

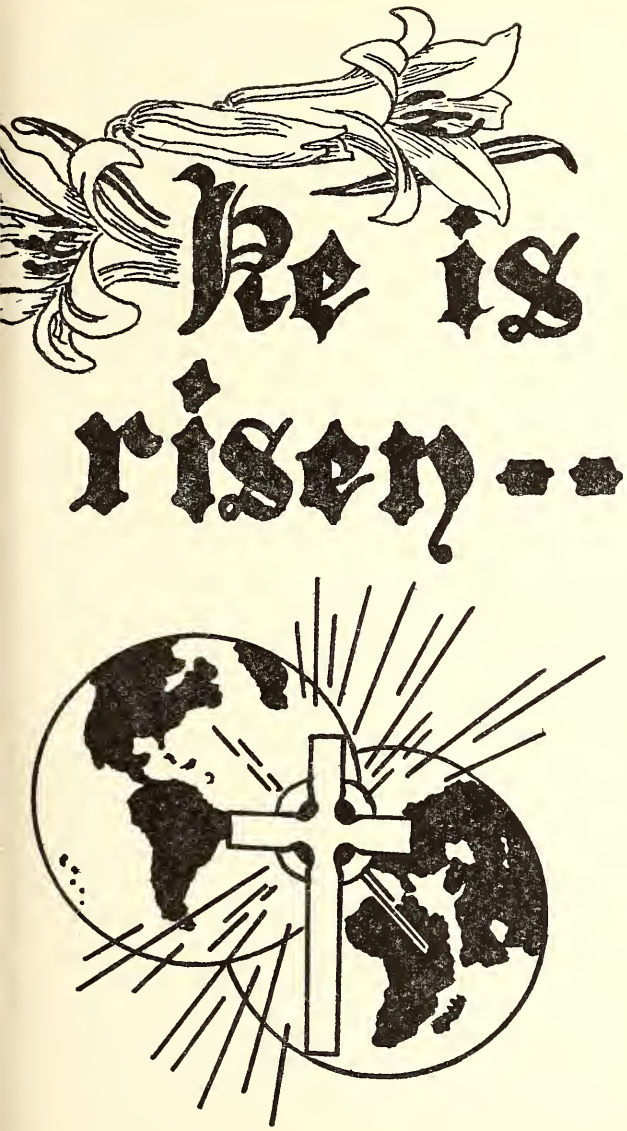
- To Fulfill The Desire of Our Lord
- To Spread The Good News of Salvation
- To Free Ourselves From Selfishness
- To Prove Our Stewardship
- To Receive Promised Blessings
- To Grow in Grace
- To Make An Advance in Brethren Missions

Everyone Needs To Share now and throughout the year

GOAL—$75,000.00

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church



Christ is risen! Hallelujah!
  Gladness fills the world today;
From the tomb that could not hold him,
  See, the stone is rolled away!

Christ hath risen! Hallelujah!
  Blessed morn of life and light;
Lo, the grave is rent asunder,
  Death is conquered through his might.

Christ hath risen! Hallelujah!
  Friends of Jesus, dry your tears;
Through the veil of gloom and darkness
  Lo, the Son of God appears!

Christ hath risen! Hallelujah!
  He hath risen, as He said;
He is now the King of Glory,
  And our great, exalted Head.

—Fanny J. Crosby.

VOL. LXXVIII March 24, 1956 No. 12

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA. BETHLEHEM BRETHREN. The Bethlehem congregation plans to participate in Holy Week services in the Dayton Church of the Brethren, with their pastor, Brother John F. Locke, as the guest minister for the week.

The Bethlehem young people will have charge of the Easter Service.

McGAHEYSVILLE, VIRGINIA. MT. OLIVE BRETHREN. The Mt. Olive Church at its recent business meeting, by ballot, gave a unanimous call to its pastor, Brother John F. Locke, to begin his 25th year of service to the church.

The Laymen's Organization of Mt. Olive has, by its request, been assigned the project of building. A new entrance to the church is planned.

OAK HILL, W. VA. The Oak Hill church was host to the local Boy Scout troups in the morning service on February 12th. Brother Milton M. Robinson reports a "full house."

CAMERON, W. VA.—QUIET DELL, PENNA. Brother Cecil Bolton, Jr., writes to the Editor concerning his recent illness: "Thought perhaps I ought to drop you a line to let you know about my condition. After two weeks of bed rest at home I entered the Ohio Valley General Hospital, Wheeling, February 28th. I was there ten days and they ran exhaustive tests. After all the tests had proven negative they gave me an X-ray of the sinus and decided they had found the trouble. They diagnosed it as a very badly infected sinus, so I was discharged from the hospital Friday and had my sinuses irrigated. I feel much better and my fever was back to normal last night, (March 10th), so hope it was a correct diagnosis.

"I preached today (March 11th) for the first time in six weeks and hope that I will be able to carry out the full schedule of work from now on. I have to go back to the Clinic for another irrigation next Friday. Mrs. Bolton and Ann (the Bolton's new baby daughter. Ed) are both doing just fine."

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. John Golby, correspondent of the Third Church writes, "The Third Brethren members are learning to know considerable of the faculty and others from Ashland and are enenjoying their fine messages. The Laymen, which is the Men's Lookout Bible Class, sponsored an annual Father and Son banquet, Monday, February 27th, and had a fine attendance, a fine meal and were fed spiritually in an address by Rev. Robert G. Sander of Geistown, Penna. We also had visitors from our neighboring Brush Valley Brethren in the number of 16, accompanied by their pastor, Brother David Rambsel. The Pennsylvania District Brethren Laymen will hold their Spring Rally, April 30th, 7:00 P. M. prevailing time, in Johnstown 3rd Brethren; an interesting program is being arranged."

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Brother William D. Keeling notes that the Pennsylvania Conference of the W. C. T. U. is a scheduled summer event for the Masontown Church. Brother Keeling says, "In the past three years we have had Dr. J. Raymond Schmidt, President of the Temperance League, with us on two occasions. This present meeting will be one of supreme importance to all who are interested in this work of total abstinence."

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Brother Elmer M. Keck notes that another member was received into the church fellowship at the morning worship service on March 11th.

A new oil furnace has recently been installed in the Valley Church.

BERLIN, PENNA. Brother Lyle Lichtenberger notes that ten laymen from the Berlin Church spent a recent Sunday afternoon visiting the Somerset State Hospital, under the guidance of Rev. James, psycho-social worker.

Brother Lichtenberger will bring the message in the Community Union Lenten Service on Palm Sunday evening in the Berlin Reformed Church.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. The Meyersdale youth group has been selected to take charge of a hymn dramatization for the Community Easter Sunrise Service.

MANSFIELD, OHIO. A copy of "The Trumpeteer" has come to the Editor's desk. It is a finely edited and newsy mimeographed church paper put out by the Brethren Youth of the Mansfield church. It also contains a monthly church calendar.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. A note from Brother Robert Hoffman says, "We have chosen a finance Committee and also a building Committee. Plans are under way to begin

(Continued on Page 11)

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 11)

The Editor's Pulpit

Who Owns It?

A CHILD once, having sat in a Sunday School Class in which the word "possessions" was used, later asked his father the meaning of the word. "What does 'possession' mean?"

Our answer was that possessions were the things we owned—that we could call our own.

Since then, we have been giving thought to this word "possessions." Do you know what it means? Do you know what it **really** means? Jesus noted the rich young ruler, that he "went away sorrowful—for he had great possessions." We note also that the Pharisee announced to God and to the gullible temple audience, when he prayed, "I give tithes of all I possess."

In our own experience we have met people who seemed to be very conscious of their possessions. One, in particular, some years ago, we recall that while giving us a tour of his lands, left an echo of his words in our mind, which went something like this: "I, My, and Mine."

Certainly there is a degree to which we own the things we call our own. The little treasures—keepsakes, the things we treasure through the years—the things we have in our homes, and the savings we have. Almost every child has lavished affection on some puppy, kitten, wagon, or other toy. He calls it his own, and he is ready to defend his right of ownership against all takers. This develops into the secret "treasure box"—or a secret hiding place.

Inborn is the trait of possession, or ownership. For possessions, men will sacrifice home, friends, loved ones, reputation, character, and their souls. (To us, this last sentence is an understatement. We cannot comprehend the lengths to which some people will go to gain more and more possessions.)

Our main concern, this week, though is a person's attitude toward that which he calls "his own." Possessions are often valuable, and as such should be carefully guarded and cared for. To ignore the value of, or abuse and destroy our possessions is not a very wise thing to do. We must properly care for and protect these "possessions" for which we, or others, have often worked many hard hours.

But let's keep the right slant on our attitude towards our ownership of our possessions. To do this, we suggest that you attend a "household goods" sale in your community. Every chair, every bed, every article for sale, was once the prize possession of someone who left it behind when death stepped in. It's very sobering, to say the least!

Out of all that we have been saying, so far, we believe you can see a picture of the ownership of our possessions. We may call these things our own. We may treasure what we own. But there comes a day when possessions—no matter how valuable—no matter how treasured—will be left behind.

Thus, to obtain a true picture of "possessions," we must surely interpret ownership as being temporal. Yet there is more to it than that. There is much that we can do about possessions, in this life, which will make for a proper use of them, and which will, believe it or not, make us permanent owners of our possessions. Yes, dear friends, these very possessions, treasures, monies of ours, (the value thereof), can be ours for all eternity.

To bring this to pass, we must convert our earthly possessions into heavenly "legal tender." Christ said, so long ago, "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven." He contrasted the possibility of heavenly gain against the loss of earthly gains through rust, moths and robbers. (Perhaps we could add modern day's fast depreciation

(Continued on Page 10)

AND THE CHRISTIAN

Matthew 28:7—"Go quickly, and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead; and, behold, He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see Him: lo I have told you."

CHRIST LIVES: Easter is the discovery that Christ lives. Apart from the resurrection, there is no hope for the believer. Paul flatly stated that, apart from the resurrection of the dead, there is no ground for faith, no need for preaching, and that all men are still in an unregenerated state. For Christ is the basis of our faith and our only means of forgiveness, our only Mediator. If He is still dead, then we are without hope. I Cor. 15:12-23.

The resurrection of Jesus from the grave is the capstone of the Gospel. Christ arose. Christ lives. There is no Christianity without these facts. In the resurrection experience God proclaimed to the world that this Jesus had been the embodiment of His holy purpose; and that He not only won a supreme victory over evil, but best of all, He won a victory over death; that henceforth He would return to the glory of which He had voluntarily divested Himself when submitting to the incarnation. Yes, Christ's resurrection is the great divine victory over sin and death. Jesus by His faithfulness won this victory. He went to the cross because of the wickedness of man, and He turned that horrible instrument of torture into the divine symbol of redemption. He shed His blood for sin, and by some process far beyond the ability of human mind to conceive, that shed blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. Praise God! His resurrection not only confirmed His authority to forgive sin but gave Him power to impart eternal life to men.

CHRIST GIVES VICTORY—Victorious living is now possible in this wicked world. It comes alone, but it comes abundantly, through our Lord Jesus Christ. He won it for Himself, He won it for us. He graciously shares it with us. So we are more than conquerors through Him. Through Christ we can have victory over sin in everyday life; over trial and sorrow and weakness; we can be victorious even over death. I Cor. 15:57—But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

CHRIST IS OUR LORD—The resurrection has confirmed His Lordship. We owe Him, therefore, worship and obedience. In John 20:28 when Thomas exclaimed, "My Lord and my God," it was a spontaneous and sublime confession that went beyond the fact that Jesus was again alive. He was convinced by love and mercy and knowledge of his Lord, not only of His resurrection but of His divine nature. This confession is not only the culmination of belief; it is also the climax of the Gospel. If Jesus allowed Thomas to

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This Article by MARGARET E. LOWERY

worship Him as God, we should yield ourselves to Him in adoration and love as to a divine Master. Thomas' confession was the confession of all the disciples.

Jesus was anxious that all His disciples would confess Him as Lord. He wanted their complete faith in Him as a risen Savior so that they should be fitted to accept the biggest commission that was ever given to men. John 20:21—"Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." Acts 1:8—"Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Matt. 28:19, 20—"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

CHRIST CASTS OUT FEAR—Matt. 28:10—"Be not afraid." Next to death the tyrant which most cruelly afflicts humanity is fear. It is one of humanity's greatest scourges. There is no cure for fear save faith—not faith in ourselves, not faith in anything the world can give, but faith in Jesus, who having been crucified, was raised from the dead and glorified. Christ said, "Let not your heart be troubled." This is one of the Gospel's greatest assurances designed to strengthen men's souls. The only thing to keep you from constant agitation of mind and spirit, said Jesus, is firm belief. Before we can have faith, we must have belief. The greatest single need in the world today is the need for more definite belief in the truth as God has revealed it in His Word. Christian teaching confidently affirms that faith in Jesus Christ as Savior, Lord, and ever present Friend is the only defense against fear.

Jesus bids us be of good cheer. Matt. 14:27. This we cannot be if we are anxious and troubled. He says plainly that we only are to fear that we may transgress the will of God. If we have this fear, all morbid fears will evaporate. The real power of the universe is spiritual power. The things to fear are not the millions of apprehensions, worries, and morbid fantasies with which we plague ourselves. The thing to fear is that we may come short of the glory of God—that we may miss the destiny He has ordained for us. "Fear not; it is I; be not afraid." Fear rules our world. **CHRIST SHOULD RULE IT!**

CHRIST SAYS, "GO—TELL!" By way of Christ's resurrection, He, and He alone proved His authority in heaven as well as on earth. That

MARGARET E. LOWERY

authority gave Him the right to appoint to office. He did not fail to give a Great Commission to those He appointed. The angelic command, Matt. 28:7, given to the women to go quickly and tell the disciples of Jesus, that He was risen from the dead, remains the directive for Christian believers in all ages.

It seems that one of the greatest proofs of the resurrection of our Lord is the transformation it worked in the lives of the eleven disciples. Simple men though they were, they met the challenge of the Great Commission, rose above all questioning, faced the bitterest persecution, died as martyrs, but won a world. Without the dynamic of a great faith such an achievement would have been impossible. But the promise of the divine presence sustained them in its fulfillment and enabled them to meet every obstacle triumphantly. The same thing applies to His disciples today.

We are to lose no time spreading the news as to what happened in the world's life through the ministry and triumph of Jesus Christ. We are first to tell His disciples—beginning by confirming our own faith, teaching it to members of our households, testifying to it among other Christians, and if we are appointed so to do, proclaiming it from the pulpit and bringing the assurance of this great truth to those in far away lands.

The assurance of the angel was: "He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see Him." Through the ages He has been going before us. He leads the way. He made a definite appointment with His disciples before His death. They

were to meet Him at some point in Galilee. We have definite appointments with Him—our daily devotions, the carrying of His righteousness into the living of our everyday lives, the weekly service of worship, the prayer meetings, a continuous and faithful attendance to the tasks He assigns. We are His disciples—we must not remain quiet about the good news.

Christianity is a missionary religion. Jesus gave the Great Commission to take the good news to all the world. If we as Christians comprehend the significance of the resurrection, we shall hasten as did the women on that first Easter morn, to tell others. That is Christ's way for men to learn the Gospel news. Can you truly sing?—

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing

Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!

The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find,

None other is so loving, so good and kind.

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives?

HE LIVES WITHIN MY HEART.

Krypton, Kentucky.

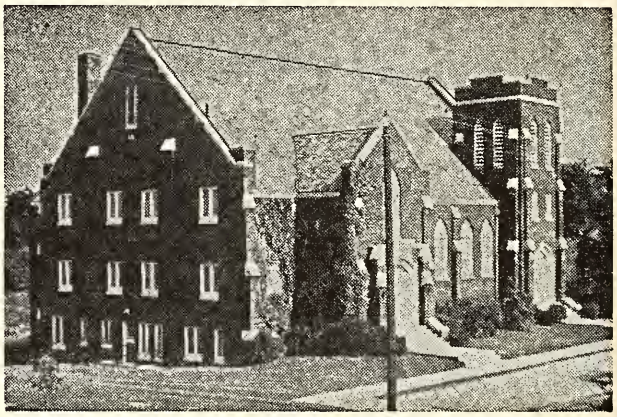
BRETHREN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

ON FAITH AND ORDER of 1956

April 10-12, 1956

Park Street Brethren Church

Ashland, Ohio



Tuesday—7:30 P. M.

Elder Freeman Ankrum, Chairman

Rev. Kenneth Hulit, Canton, Ohio .....Guest Speaker

Wednesday—Morning Session

Elder Clayton Berkshire, Chairman of Session

9:30—Devotions and Season of Prayer
Elder George Solomon

10:00—Representative from the Wells Organization, Inc.
Church Fund Raising—Discussion to follow

Afternoon Session

Elder Spencer Gentle, Chairman

1:30—Devotions .....Miss Carol Berkshire

1:40—"The Sisterhood Organization"
Mrs. J. M. Bowman

2:10—Discussion

2:40—"The Brotherhood Organization"
Rev. N. V. Leatherman

3:10—Discussion

Evening Session

Elder E. M. Riddle, Chairman

7:30—In charge of the Robert Bischofs

8:30—Coffee Hour .....Seminary Wives' Organization

Thursday—Morning Session

Elder Clarence Fairbanks, Chairman of Session

9:30—Devotions .....Elder Edwin Boardman

10:00—"The Seminary" .....Elder Delbert Flora
Discussion

11:00—"Ashland College" .....Dr. Glenn Clayton
Discussion

Afternoon Session

Elder Charles Munson, Chairman

1:30—Devotions .....Elder Willis E. Ronk

1:40—Panel Discussion
"The Co-Ordinating Planning Committee"
Moderator: Elder L. V. King

Evening Session

7:30—Holy Communion
Conducted by Elder Robert Hoffman

COMMITTEE:
Spencer Gentle, Chairman
Charles Munson
E. M. Riddle

SONG LEADERS: Phillip Lersch, Jerry Flora

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

EXPERIENCES AT WAKA

(Continuing the letter from Veda Liskey to Mrs. Lindower at the Missionary Board office)

. . . The retiring bell (9:30 P. M.) rang an hour and a half ago. Almost all of Waka is fast asleep. I can hear an occasional crying of a baby from the nearby married-students' quarters and some elementary school children still chattering. They returned late in the evening from their homes where they spent the week end and have brought back a week's supply of flour and dried leaves and okra. They are no doubt exchanging traveling experiences and greetings.

Since I live near the dormitories here, I'm appreciating the quietness of this near-closing day, and the much-desired time for this chat with you. It is so hard to find a quiet, free time for the like unless one waits for quiet of the late or "wee" hours. And being a nurse, and on call night and day, makes it even more difficult.

School and medicine

This first term of school began the middle of January —the height of our cool or cold season. Traveling long distances in open trucks caused colds and "flu" among many of our students. We have had lots of malaria and some other sicknesses too. Five weeks ago I started a program of malaria prevention. Each person at Waka takes each week a tablet of Daraprine that is supposed to prevent malaria. It will be interesting to see how successful it will be. Last year we had more than 450 cases of malaria; so we need such prevention.

I certainly wish each of you could see the newly redecorated dispensary—fresh green walls and new furniture. It is decidedly a joy to work in such a nice place.

The Girls' School

We are all so thankful for our large number in girls' school this year. There are about 40 in all, and such an opportunity for learning and experiencing the "abundant life" in Christ. I have study hall two nights a week with them, which is a real joy to me.

All last year we worshipped in a very crowded classroom, but this year we are using the large, cooking and laundry laboratory of the women's school. We have electric lights in it, but even though it is large there still isn't room for all of the people of Waka at one time. We are needing a chapel very badly.

Providing a Name

Here at home I was honored by being asked to name my third "grandchild"—the son of my cook. His newborn name was Anjikwi, as is the custom. Now at four months he has the new name, Timothy, in honor of Elder Timothy Swartz, the superintendent of our Bethlehem Sunday School. There were nine African adults and nine children present in my small livingroom. We had a brief worship service in Bura with prayer for the honored baby and his parents. Then we enjoyed light refreshments together . . .

Veda.

BISCHOF'S DEPUTATION SCHEDULE
April

April 1 (Easter)	Vinco
April 3 (Guild meeting)	Ashland
April 4, 5	Fremont
April 8	Williamstown
April 10-12	Pastor's Institute
April 15	North Manchester
April 16, 17	Milledgeville
April 18, 19	Lanark
April 20-22	Illinois Spring Camp
April 23-26	(Enroute to Pennsylvania)
April 26, 27	Jones Mills
April 29	Johnstown Third

Brethren people who have not been able to secure a date for the Bischofs to appear in their church take note of their deputation dates. Perhaps you can hear them when they are in your area.

As you are tempted by the commercial appeals of Easter this year, won't you ask yourself if you have done enough for Him, who was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be made rich?

The amount that many Brethren people will pay for unneeded clothing, candies, eggs and Easter niceties in general could bring salvation to those for whom Christ died and rose again.

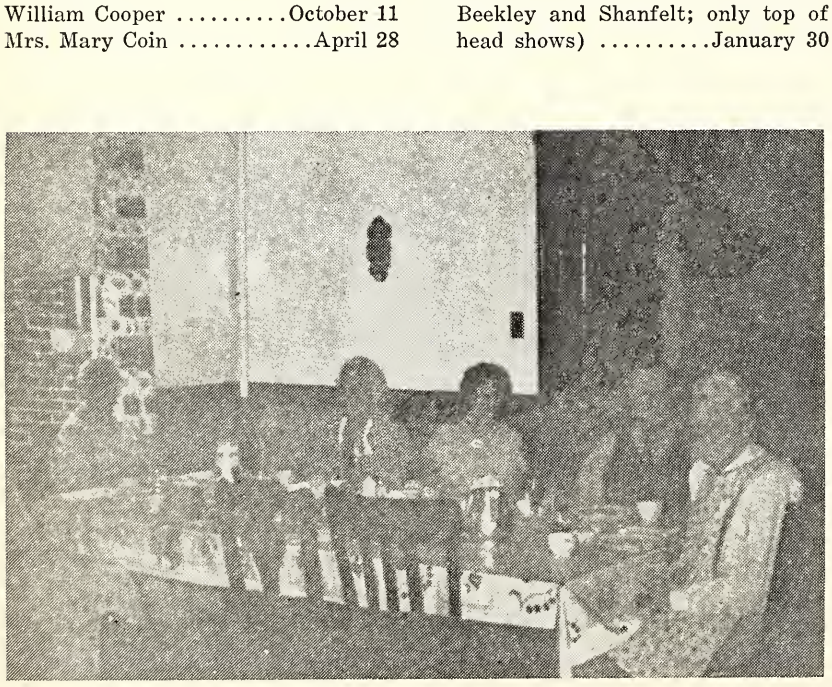
Approach this blessed season prayerfully, seeking the Lord's guidance in your Easter spending. Give for the salvation of those in Nigeria and Argentina. EVERYONE NEEDS TO SHARE!

THE BRETHREN'S HOME - Resic

AT THIS TABLE

(left to right)

David Eller .....July 7
William Cooper .....October 11
Mrs. Mary Coin .....April 28
Mrs. Mary Obenchain .....June 14
Mrs. Eva Shanafelt .....June 18
Mrs. Orpha Beekley .....April 6
Mrs. Lulu Shively (back of Mesdames Beekley and Shanfelt; only top of head shows) .....January 30



AT THIS TABLE

(left to right)

Mrs. Lydia Petit .....September 23
Miss Jennie Harrison .....July 24
Mrs. Hughes .....Nurse
Peter Rarick .....August 4
Albert Daniels .....December 22

VISITING THE BR

THIS YEAR we drove to the Bretht left Teegarden, Indiana, where my we were at the Home before dinner. W Ralph and Grace went along. They hac up from being at Lost Creek, Kentucl who was pastor of the Flora Brethren Home and that was the first time tha had read much about it for many ye have a note on one of my slides that tl

The Home is being taken care o ments every year. The work of pointi of a new building this summer. Then t ing spirit to the grounds. All the mem would in their own home. Since much well as outside, Brother Kuns took us We took pictures of the Members at had gone to Brother Bert Hodge's for of the Members are not in the picture

Mrs. Keck and I are always glad t summer. We always have a fine meal, almost tell what you have to eat. We coming summer. It will be in August year we showed colored slides of the ren churches, Camp Juniata (Pennsylv taken here in the mountains. We have scenes that we will be glad to show t of the Home at dinner each summer.

May we ever remember this most

RESIDENTS NOT PICTURED

Mrs. Flora Brower .....January
Miss Emma Berkheiser ....April
Mrs. Dyoll Belote .....August

nts and their Birthdays - Flora, Indiana

EN'S HOME—1955

ome on Wednesday, August 10th. We
and brother live, at 9:00 A. M., and
ys try to get there in time for dinner.
een at Flora since 1949 when we came
stopped with Rev. Edgar Berkshire,
at that time. He took us out to the
ad ever been at the Home, though we
The Brethren Evangelist. I see that I
e was dedicated May 29, 1923.

excellent way. We see new improve-
he brick made it have the appearance
new cottages seems to add a welcom-
ve a happy spirit about them like they
ad been done on the building inside as
and even in the basement as well.
ner tables. Some, six, of the Members
M. S. meeting. We are sorry that all

the Home for part of a day every
th the pictures taken in color, you can
nning to be at the Home one day this
is the time we visit my people. Last
n ministers (taken since 1949), Breth-
mp) and some fall and winter views
ew colored slides of the fall and winter
s summer. We also show the Members

work in prayer and otherwise.

ncerely yours,

Elmer M. Keck, Jones Mills, Penna.

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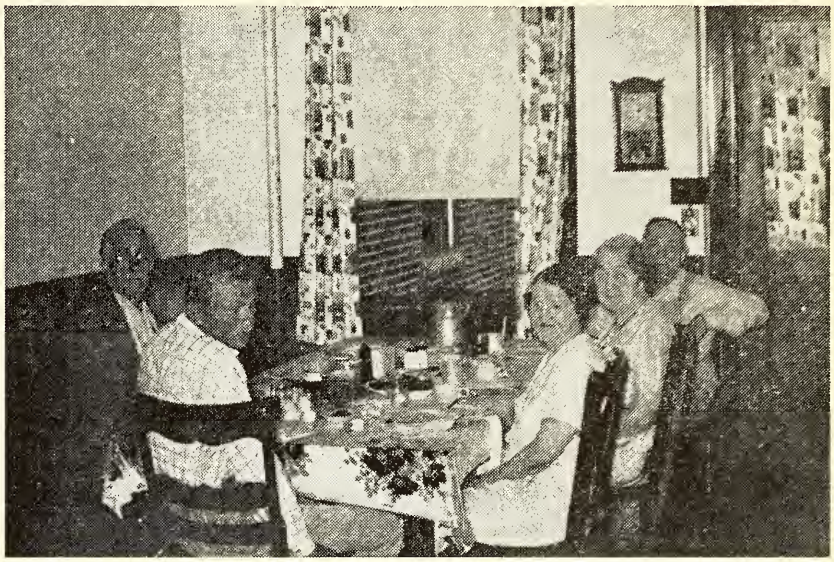
s. Mae Cripe .....September 7
s. Sydney Rogers ...November 15
s. Florence Ailer .....March 3
s. Russell Kuns (Matron)
February 13



AT THIS TABLE

(left to right)

Dyoll Belote .....September 13
Gerry Mullendore .....Hired Helper
Roy Stonebraker .....March 4
Mrs. Roy Stonebraker ....August 22
Mrs. Hattie Mann ....September 19

AT THIS TABLE
(left to right)

Ralph Keck
Richard Kuns..Son of Superintendent
Russell Kuns (Superintendent)
January 4
Mrs. E. M. Keck
Miss Grace Keck

THE EDITOR'S PULPIT

WHO OWNS IT?

(Continued from Page 3)

and outdatedness.) To lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven, we must give what we have into the service of Christ. We must consecrate and dedicate our all to Him. In this way, conversion of earthly possessions into heavenly treasures takes place.

At first thought, one would think then that the more we have here the more we will have over there. If we are poor here, we shall be poor over there. But that is not the case. The poor widow was commended for giving a few coins in the temple, while the rich Pharisees were left outside as far as Christ's commendation was concerned. No doubt many people gave into the temple treasury coins of more value than did this poor woman. At times, we have witnessed people giving to a particular offering and jokingly saying they were giving the "widow's mite." How shocked they would be that had they done such, they would have had to go and get their bank books, their farm and property titles, open their lock boxes and get the loaded socks from under their mattresses—for the Lord said that the poor woman gave all that she had. Christ does not reckon giving of amounts in dollars and cents. **He does it according to percentages. Christ reckons the value of a gift according to the ability of the giver to give.** Our conversion of earthly possessions into heavenly treasure is done through giving, through dedicating and using all that we have, and are, in the service of Christ and the church.

Our chief concern, then, is "Who owns our possessions? Do we, or does God?" If God owns them, we will be using them in His service. If we own them, selfishly, we will find ourselves thinking only of them and of how we can increase that which we have. The possessions of things obtained through hard work, and honestly, is no sin. The selfish, greedy grasp on them is! For such an individual, life becomes a daily worship of possessions. Such do not own their possessions —their possessions own them.

The rational conclusion then, in a definition of the word "possession," is: **"That which God in His mercy toward us has permitted us to have and to hold, through honest labor and by honest means; which holding such in our hands for the time being, we use, we dedicate and give to His Service; whereby men and women might find Christ as Saviour and whereby the Church of Christ might be supported; knowing that in the end, we must leave all, and for our use thereof, must give an accounting unto God in that day."** What does the word "possessions" mean according to you?—W. S. B.

IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT THE COMING OHIO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Following is some information important to Ohio Brethren as released by Moderator John T. Byler, and Secretary Robert L. Hoffman.

"Canton, scheduled to be the host church to the Ohio District Conference, feels it is impossible for them to entertain the delegates with their limited facilities, so has arranged (with the approval of the Executive Committee) to schedule the conference at Linwood Park, an E. U. B. Summer Assembly Park, at Vermillion, Ohio on Lake Erie. The Conference will be from Thursday, July 12th through July 15th. This will be almost a month later than our usual time.

"Another innovation in this conference will be the complete revision of the schedule for conference. There will be no 8:00 or 8:30 Simultaneous Sessions, but these will come at 11:00 A. M., after a two-hour inspirational session, and again at 3:45, after a Business Session. The mornings will be primarily devoted to Inspiration; the afternoons to Business. A much larger effort is being devoted to Youth in the Conference and a Missionary Rally will be one of the high points of the week, on Saturday evening after the Banquets. The sessions will close after a morning worship period and Sunday School on Sunday Morning.

"We expect to have outstanding youth leaders present, with a lot of activities for young people.

"The cost of the Conference, to each delegate, for room and board, for the four day period will be approximately $12.50. Make plans, now, to go."

Plan to take part of your vacation at this time and attend your District Conference by the lake.

John T. Byler, Moderator,
Ohio District Conference.

Robert L. Hoffman, Secretary
Ohio District Conference.

COMING EVENTS

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Holy Week Services—**March 25th through April 1st**—Rev. V. E. Meyer, Pastor.

FAIR HAVEN, OHIO. Holy Week Services—**March 28th and 29th**—Rev. Charles Munson, Speaker; Rev. Phil Lersch, Pastor.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. Main Street Brethren. Pre-Easter Evangelistic Services—**Evening of March 25th through March 30th**—Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, Evangelist; Rev. Horace Huse, Pastor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. Wayne Heights Brethren. Pre-Easter Services—**March 28-30**—Rev. D. C. White, Speaker, March 28th; Rev. Lester Meyers, Speaker, March 30th; Rev. N. Victor Leatherman, Pastor.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Holy Week Services—**March 25-30**—Dr. Herman Centz, Speaker; Rev. J. D. Hamel, Pastor.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. Holy Week Services—**March 29-30**—Rev. W. S. Benshoff, Pastor.

TIOSA, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**April 2-15**—Rev. O. C. Lemert, Evangelist; Rev. Wayne E. Swihart, Pastor.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Revival Services—**April 3-15**—Rev. V. D. Geren, Evangelist; Rev. E. J. Black, Pastor.

GATEWOOD, W. VA. Revival Services—**April 2-8**—Rev. Hays K. Logan, Pastor-Evangelist.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING. Evangelistic Meeting—**Beginning March 25th**—Rev. H. E. Eppley, Evangelist; Rev. Frank W. Garber, Pastor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Pre-Easter Services—**March 25th through April 1st**—Rev. Spencer Gentle, Pastor.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Holy Week Services—**March 29-30**—Biblical Drama, "The Thirty Pieces of Silver" Thursday evening; preaching Friday evening; Rev. Bruce C. Shanholtz, Pastor.

HOWE, INDIANA. Brighton Chapel Brethren.—Holy Week Services—**March 28-30**—Messages by Rev. Smith F. Rose, Pastor.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Revival Services—**April 2-15**—Rev. D. C. White, Evangelist; Rev. William D. Keeling, Pastor.

MANSFIELD, OHIO. Pre-Easter Services—**March 28-30**—Rev. Harold Barnett, Pastor.

NEW PARIS, INDIANA. Pre-Easter Services—**March 27-29**—Rev. E. M. Riddle, Pastor.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. Evangelistic Services—**April 1-8**—Rev. Willis E. Ronk, Evangelist; Rev. H. H. Rowsey, Pastor.

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

a finance campaign for our future addition to the rear of the church."

Fifty members of the Smithville Sunday School had perfect attendance during the past year.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Two were baptized and received into the church as a result of Trinity Brethren's recent revival meeting. Others are to be received later.

The Trinity Brethren Sunday School has averaged 145 in attendance the past month.

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. Brother Percy C. Miller is conducting special Evangelistic Services each Sunday and each Wednesday evening between March 4th and April 1st. Featured at some of these services are WHIO-TV's Good Ship Zion's Gospel Mariners.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. The Goshen Church will be host to the Good Friday service.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Professor Edwin Boardman, of the Ashland Seminary Faculty, was the guest speaker in the North Manchester church on March 11th.

NEW PARIS, INDIANA. Brother E. M. Riddle sends in the following information, "The Chamber of Commerce of New Paris, honored the basketball squad and coach of the local high school in a banquet and program in the Brethren Church. A very fine program was presented, the speaker being a former coach of several years ago, who now is in charge of a Christian Mission work in Indianapolis. Awards were given by the local coach, Mr. Harrell. Mr. Reynolds, the local banker, was toastmaster. Women of the Church served the lovely banquet."

The Good Friday services will be held in the Brethren Church.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Brother A. T. Ronk brought the message at the evening Union Lenten service, in the Calvary E. U. B. church on March 11th.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. The Men's Brotherhood has sponsored the preparation and erection of church signs along the highways leading into town.

CARLETON, NEBRASKA. Brother Claude Stogsdill has announced that Revival Services are in progress there from March 19th through April 1st, with Brother Wilbur Thomas as the Evangelist. (We are sorry the announcement did not arrive in time to be used in our Coming Events column, but we are glad to give announcement to the meeting here. W. S. B.)

TUCSON, ARIZONA. The February 1956 average Sunday School attendance was 160, as compared with an average of 109 for the same period last year.

"The Other Kingdom," a drama about Judas, was presented by the Tucson Little Theater, in the Brethren Church in Tucson the evening of March 18th.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

BECAUSE OF CALVARY

I love my Lord: He's dear to me—
So dear—because of Calvary.
For there He suffered pain untold;
In awful anguish, died;
His life did give
That I might live;
My Lord was crucified.
My life is His—my love is His—
Because He first loved me.
I love my Lord: He's dear to me—
So dear—because of Calvary.

—E. L. Yanchus.

THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN the many who walk as the enemies of the Cross of Christ (Phil. 3:18), but that does not annul the efficacy of Christ's atoning work on that cross (1 Cor. 1:23, 24). It was by bearing His cross that He "went forth" (John 19:17-19), and fully complied with the program of redemption (Phil. 2:8). Without the cross there could have been no reconciliation for sinners (Col. 1:20-22). Thus the condemnations of a violated law were satisfied (Gal. 3:10, 13; Col. 2:13, 14). No wonder that there can only be woe to those who despise the cross of Christ (1 Cor. 1:18). We cannot even look to Jesus and see Him apart from His cross (Heb. 12:2), and we cannot follow Him except we take His example in cross-bearing into our own lives (Matt. 16:24).

It was the Christ of the cross that was preached in the first century (2 Cor. 4:5). Worldly wisdom was no asset to that preaching (Col. 2:8). The cross reminded men of the wrath of God against sin (Rom. 1:18). The cross was not an afterthought but according to the foreknowledge of God (Acts 2:22, 23). The cross is contrary to present-day light conceptions of sin (Rom. 5:6; 1 Cor. 15:3). It was sin that crucified Christ (1 Peter 2:24).

"Did our Immanuel die for us,
To save such poor, rebellious men?
Did He display His pity thus
That we might come to God again?

"All human language wants a name
For this unfathomed, wondrous love.
This pure, immortal, fervent flame
Sprang only from the God above.

"O'erwhelmed with this abyss of love,
We stand astonished at the grace
That brought the Savior from above,
To die for all the fallen race."

Because of Calvary there can be no doubt of the love of God (Rom. 5:6-9). Calvary was the supreme manifestation of God's love (1 John 4:9, 10). His love for us sent Christ to Calvary (2 Cor. 8:9). Great as is this divine love, we need it all (Rom. 8:35, 37-39).

We who are the Lord's (1 Cor. 6:17), are crucified with Him (Gal. 2:20). That is, we are sacrificial and not selfish (Luke 9:23, 24). We die to the things which caused His death (Gal. 5:24). If we have Jesus we have dropped this world (Gal. 6:14). We cannot have this world and our Savior, too (Phil. 3:7, 8). We are to share His crucifixion (2 Cor. 4:10). We cannot be wrapped in ourselves and bear fruit for Him (John 12:24). Because of Calvary we cannot store our treasure on earth (Matt. 6:19-21). Because of Calvary we yield our bodies to Christ a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1). It is through our bodies that we render service either to Christ or Satan (Rom. 6:11-13). Our bodies are the Lord's (1 Cor. 6:13) for His indwelling (1 Cor. 6:18-20). We are to bear in our bodies not the marks of sin (1 Peter 2:22-24), but the marks of the Lord Jesus (Gal. 6:14).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for April 1, 1956

THE MEANING OF THE RESURRECTION

Lesson: Luke 24:28-34, 44-53

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply, Alleluia!"

IT IS ONLY PROPER and fitting on this glorious Easter Day that all creation sing glory to God! "Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!" However, we must be sure that we understand the spiritual significance of the Easter message. Have **you** proof this day that Christ has risen from the dead? Is the Living Christ dwelling within **your** life? What does the Resurrection story mean to **you?**

The disciples were a confused and disillusioned lot that day Christ was crucified. All their hopes and aspirations had been dashed to pieces by the death of their Lord and Master. Then came the third day. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, visited the sepulchre where the body of Jesus had lain. "And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus." Then they saw two angels which spoke to them: "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen" (Luke 24:2-6).

With joy and gladness of heart the women swiftly conveyed the angels' message to the other disciples. Did the disciples eagerly embrace the good news? No! Luke tell us the women "told these things unto the apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and **they believed them not.**"

So there are many today who will not accept the good news that "Christ the Lord is ris'n today." They say, as did Thomas, "Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe" (John 20:25). The doubting Thomases of our day are missing the rich, spiritual blessing God bestows upon all those who believe.

After He arose from the grave, Christ appeared to two of the disciples as they walked toward Emmaus. He walked and talked with them. And they did not know **Him! Can it be we have been so insensitive to His Divine Presence that the Risen Christ has walked with us, and talked with us, and we knew Him not?**

We need to pray:

"Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp, and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit Divine!"

It was only when their eyes were opened that the two disciples recognized their Risen Saviour!

The grave could not hold our Victorious Christ. He triumphed over sin, death, and the grave. **And He still lives today!** He lives within the hearts and lives of all true believers.

"Give me just one good reason," demanded an atheist, "why you believe that Jesus rose again."

"I can give you one very good reason," answered his Christian friend. "I talked with Him just this morning."

"CHRIST THE LORD IS RIS'N TODAY, ALLELUIA!"

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of April

Topic: "The Meaning of the Resurrection"

1. The Empty Tomb. Matt. 28:1-10

Even though Christ had preached His resurrection, the empty tomb was a great shock not only to the women who had brought tokens of their love to a Master they thought dead, but to the disciples waiting in what seems like the depths of despair. Three questions come to mind. Did they lack faith? Was it simply that they did not fully understand the greatness and the power of Christ? Or did they fail to fully understand the promises and assurance of salvation and eternal life Christ gave on many occasions?

What is your opinion? Do you think that any of us fully understand Christ's greatness and power and His promises?

2. Hope Revived. I Peter 1:3-9

One Bible scholar wrote the following concerning the resurrection of Christ: "It is the Gospel alone that gives the well-grounded hope of eternal life; and the ground on which the hope rests is the resurrection of Christ Himself. The certainty of our Lord's resurrection is the GREAT SEAL of the Gospel."

Someone has said that hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us.

Can we experience hope and fear at the same time concerning our personal salvation? Do you think our degree of faith and our degree of hope balance each other.

3. The Last Breakfast. John 21:1-14

(Calling this the "Last Breakfast" may sound strange to you, but I believe you will fully understand what I mean.) How different the last breakfast was from the last supper. The last supper was eaten in the shadow of of the cross. The last breakfast was eaten in the glory of the resurrection. The weight of the cross lay heavily upon all who were gathered together in the upper room, for one would soon betray the Lord and another deny Him thrice. Now, in the glory of Christ's resurrection, the disciples did not even ask "Who are thou? knowing that it was the Lord."

Do you think the disciples' faith was greater at the last breakfast than at the last supper? Do you think understanding increases our faith or do you think faith begins where understanding ends?

4. Declared the Son of God. Romans 1:1-9

In Acts 13:33 we read, "God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second Psalm, "Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten Thee." (Psalm 2:7)

The final proof of Christ's divinity as the Son of God was culminated in His resurrection. Although pronounced dead when He was taken from the cross, Christ was restored to life by miraculous power.

What events concerning the birth of Christ reveal His divinity? What events in the life of Christ reveal His divinity? What events in the death of Christ reveal His divinity?

In Your Face

You don't have to tell how you live each day;
You don't have to say if you work or you play;
A tried, true barometer serves in the place,
However you live, it will show in your face.

The false, the deceit that you bear in your heart;
Will not stay inside where it first got its start;
For sinew and blood are a thin veil of lace—
What you wear in your heart, you wear on your face.

If your life is unselfish, if for others you live,
For not what you get, but how much you give;
If you live close to God in His infinite grace,
You don't have to tell it, it will show in your face.

—Unknown Author.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

RECREATION IN THE CHURCH

NOW DON'T GET EXCITED. I don't mean recreation in the church building, although certainly there are some types of recreation that can be enjoyed under its roof. Here is a paper entitled **Church Recreation,** published by the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tennessee. The entire twelve-page, **Evangelist-size,** paper, printed bi-monthly, is devoted to recreation and activities in the church. It covers recreation from little children's ages to adults of all ages. I see that it is "Volume III, No. 1," so it hasn't been in print very long.

AWAKENING TO THE NEED

Churches across the land that are really going places in the Lord's work—and play—are taking a vital interest in recreation nowadays. They are not sitting back, crossing and uncrossing their legs, scratching their heads and elbows, wondering what to do to take some of the excess energy out of young people so they can be respectable Christians. They recognize the fact that God has given youth vitality which needs to be used, energy that must be put to work in the proper channels. If God made them that way, it is a good thing. I should hate to think of what the personality would be like in old age if a child spent his years sitting around in a rocking chair! This is true of his emotional life as well as his physical life.

POP-OFF VALVE

In fact the emotions and the spirit are related to the body in a very definite way. If it were not true then God could have, and probably would have, created us all spirits without bodies, just floating around in one form now, another after a while. Obviously this is the way He wanted us to look. Try praying some morning before you are awake and you will see what I mean. Some of us go through that ritual in hopes that we will appease God, or please Him with the form of our devotions. We need to stir ourselves and shake our bodies until our spirits are awake.

The young life doesn't have much trouble keeping awake. Youth are awake to everything that crosses their path—too much sometimes. But we let them drift into wrong places, using up that pent-up energy and enthusiasm on things that do not belong to God. They have instincts, they have drives—and I **don't** mean **automobiles.** These drives are good if used in the right manner. They furnish power to do good and right, if directed rightly. As a certain contemporary minister put it: "The engine in the car is meant to drive the car on the road, but misdirected it can land in the ditch."

Recreation is good for letting off some of that excess "steam." And the wonderful thing that church recreation has over the sports of the world is that it is not (yet at least) so all-important that it is **work.** It isn't a life—or—death matter who wins; it is only a means of doing something that is good for the body. How many times have you heard someone say, "If the **Church** won't give young people anything to do they will go **somewhere.**" I don't like the gleam in their eyes when they say that either, but there is more truth in that statement than most of us like to admit.

A certain English woman said to me once when we were discussing recreation in an English Church, "We feel it is better that they come here than to be in the Pubs." Of course I agreed with her—partly. For the form of recreation that the youth were indulging in was exactly the same as that in which they would have indulged in "the Pubs." To have seen them in either place, without the cover of the building, would have been exactly the same scenes. In that case I would say that the church recreational program was only something extra for the youth, for I happened to know that most of the youth used their practice in this recreation to indulge further in the recreation at the Pubs! In this instance the Church was only an **instrument** of the world. We must keep our church recreation CHURCH RECREATION.

NOT TOO EARLY

It is not too early to be thinking about summer recreation for your church. And if someone begins to complain of the COST remind him that the Church is not in business to SAVE MONEY for the Lord, it is in business to INVEST for him. Read again the parable of the talents. The one who was condemned was the man who always thought of the COST and wanted to save the money, so he took it out and buried it and gave it back to the Master when He returned, nothing gained. It will **cost** something, just as it **costs** to send missionaries abroad. It **costs** to hire a pastor; it **costs** to heat the church. But the Lord asked us to **count the cost, not save** it! Sometimes I think modern Christians would consider it a great service to the Lord if they closed the doors of the churches, for JUST LOOK AT THE MONEY WE WOULD SAVE!

A shuffleboard; a basketball court; a softball diamond; a special fund for outings and recreational benefits, are some things to think about for your church recreation. You may think that this is drawing the youth to your church through materialism; but in reality you will attract them through your love and concern for them and their needs.

IF YOU DON'T SOMEBODY ELSE WILL!

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFERING

(Easter)

Make checks payable to The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

IT IS A FINE THING to sit down and meditate.

I am wondering what I have done for my fellowmen, to cheer the sick, write a word or two to the shut-ins; or am I just drifting? I wonder if we meditate on the things worthwhile?

It seems in this busy world of ours, that we are so prone not to realize that the power of a life that is truly Christian never can be confined within oneself. It flows out daily and blesses the lives of others. As we manifest in our daily walk and conversation, the fruit of the Spirit, that is, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith and all the rest, others with whom we come in contact will be benefited in some way or other.

We cannot know how far-reaching our influence can be, for all of us touch many lives in ways which we are often quite unaware.

"Let your light so shine before men," said the Master, "that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven" and if our light is shining others cannot help but see it, so let us remember,

"How little it costs,
If we give it a thought
To make happy some heart each day.
Just one kind word, or a tender smile
As we go on, our daily way."

So may we show our love and give our best wishes to those about us and our Lord will show His great love to us as we seek to do His Will.

Mrs. C. E. Klingaman,
Waterloo, Iowa.

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

February 22 to March 14

Previous total reported	$3,319.01
Sarasota Brethren Church, Sarasota, Florida	33.40
South Bend Brethren Church, South Bend, Ind.	100.00
Johnstown Second Brethren, Johnstown, Penna.	53.00
Huntington Brethren Church, Huntington, Ind.	29.08
Southern Indiana District Laymen's Association	27.34
Park Street Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio (additional)	5.00
Milledgeville Brethren Church, Milledgeville, Ill.	201.00
Rev. W. S. Bell, Milledgeville, Ill.	25.00
St. Luke Brethren Church, Woodstock, Virginia	10.00
Sergeantsville Brethren Church, Sergeantsville, N. J.	14.25
St. James Brethren Church, St. James, Maryland	38.00
Trinity Brethren Church, Canton, Ohio	40.65
Johnstown Third Brethren, Johnstown, Penna.	90.00
Vivian Ryan, Berlin, Pa.	.24
Mrs. W. G. Knavel, Conemaugh, Pa.	5.00
Tucson Brethren Church, Tucson, Arizona	20.30
Falls City Brethren, Falls City, Iowa	10.00
West Alexandria Brethren Church, W. Alexandria, O.	20.00
Wayne Heights Brethren Church, Waynesboro, Pa.	31.75
Flora Brethren Church, Flora, Ind.	51.05
Brighton Brethren Church, Howe, Indiana	33.00
Louisville Brethren Church, Louisville, Ohio	277.50
Phyllis Gault, Park Street Brethren, Ashland, O.	20.00
Mrs. George S. Baer, Park Street, Ashland, Ohio	5.00
Rev. & Mrs. Delbert Flora, Park Street Brethren, Ashland, Ohio	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. Elton Whitted, Park St., Brethren, Ashland, O.	10.00
Mt. Olive Brethren, McGaheysville, Va.	51.00
Morrill Brethren, Morrill, Kansas	4.00
Muncie Brethren Church, Muncie, Indiana	35.05
H. A. Gossard, LaCrescenta, Calif.	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Dorman Ronk, Lost Creek, Kentucky	10.00
Total to March 14th	$4,584.62

Laid to Rest

BERKHEISER. Elmer F. Berkheiser, 80, son of Joseph and Lydia (Sullivan)) Berkheiser, was born Sept. 30, 1875 and died at his home in Mexico, Indiana, Feb. 1, 1956. Married to Cora Balsbaugh, Mar. 11, 1908. Survived by his wife, two children, one foster sister, five grandsons and three nieces. Member of the Brethren Church at Mexico. Funeral services conducted on Feb. 4th in the Church, with the pastor officiating, assisted by Rev. C. C. Grisso. Burial in Greenlawn Cemetery.

Wayne E. Swihart, Pastor.

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108 songs, choruses such as:

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77 songs, choruses such as:

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Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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VOL. LXXVIII March 31, 1956 No. 13

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING COMPANY, ASHLAND, OHIO.

Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. New hymn books are being secured. It is hoped to have them in use by Easter. New offering plates, and a cabinet in which to store the hymn books are also on order.

The new Communion set, consisting of base, cover and eight 36 cup trays, a gift of the Goshen, Indiana, Church, has been received by the Sarasota Brethren.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND. We note that Brother L. O. McCartneysmith was a patient in the Memorial Hospital, Cumberland during the early part of the month. Eugene Abe, a member of the Cumberland Church brought the morning message on March 4th. The evening message was brought by Harry Nealis. (We urge the Brotherhood to remember Brother McCartneysmith in prayer. He was able to return to his home on March 3rd. Ed.)

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. The W. M. S. Public Service is scheduled for April 15th, with Mission Board General Secretary W. Clayton Berkshire, bringing the message.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. SECOND BRETHREN. Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Allen E. Hostetler, writes: "The work on the parsonage is progressing very nicely. The wiring, plumbing and heating systems have been installed and it is now being readied for the plasterers. Practically all work to date has been by lay members and friends."

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Brother Wm. D. Keeling reports that with the weather a chief factor (snow, etc.), the attendance at the Pennsylvania District Youth Rally, the evening of Friday, March 16th, in the Masontown Church, was limited to 31 young people. A fine time is reported—an inspirational program, social time, and banquet.

CAMERON, W. VA. The Cameron Union Holy Week Service on Monday evening, was held in the Brethren Church.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Members of the Valley Brethren Choir joined with choir members of other churches of the valley, in the presentation of a special musical program in the Valley Community Hall, Palm Sunday evening.

(Continued on Page 6)

COMING EVENTS

TIOSA, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—April 2-15—Rev. O. C. Lemert, Evangelist; Rev. Wayne E. Swihart, Pastor.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Revival Services—April 3-15—Rev. V. D. Geren, Evangelist; Rev. E. J. Black, Pastor.

GATEWOOD, W. VA. Revival Services—April 2-8—Rev. Hays K. Logan, Pastor-Evangelist.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Revival Services—April 2-15—Rev. D. C. White, Evangelist; Rev. William D. Keeling, Pastor.

ST. JAMES MARYLAND. Evangelistic Meeting—April 16-29—Rev. L. V. King, Evangelist; Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Pastor.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Evangelistic Services—April 18-29—Emmons Evangelistic Party; Rev. R. K. Higgins, Pastor.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Evangelistic Campaign—April 18-29—Rev. Clarence Stogsdill, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Hoffman, Pastor.

BRETHREN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE ON FAITH AND ORDER of 1956

Park Street Brethren Church
Ashland, Ohio

Begins .....Tuesday night, April 10th, 7:30
Closes .....Thursday night, April 12th, 8:30

COME FOR INSPIRATION AND INSTRUCTION

CENTRAL DISTRICT
BRETHREN YOUTH
SPRING CAMP

Cerro Gordo Brethren Church
Cerro Gordo, Illinois

April 20, 21, 22, 1956

Special Speakers: Bob and Bea Bischof
Youth Banquet Speaker Rev. A. T. Ronk

K. C. Mock, Pastor,
Cerro Gordo, Illinois.

The Editor's Pulpit

Easter

FOR THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS we have been emphasizing, in the **Evangelist**, the Easter theme. We have, because of the importance of this great Day, been seeking to give it more than just a one issue emphasis.

We are wondering how great an emphasis you are giving the Easter message in your heart? Civilization revolves on the authenticity of the Easter morning account of the resurrection of our Lord. **Eternity, dear friends, is keystoned by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.** As Paul puts it in I Corinthians 15:14, 17: "If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins."

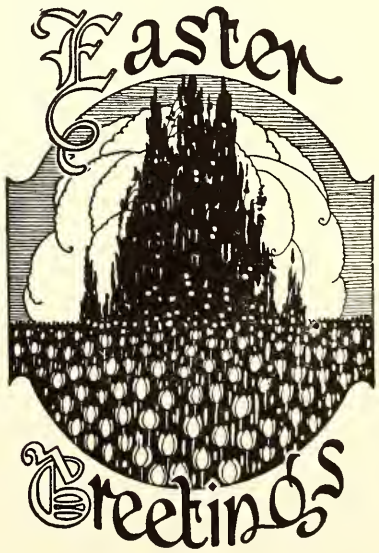
Whereas the pagan religious systems of the world point to the tombs of their founders as their focal point of worship, the true, Christian faith, points (if to a tomb, to an empty one) to the resurrected Lord. Paul continues in the 20th verse of the "Resurrection chapter": Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept . . . As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

Thus, we have the answer to remove all doubts. We do not need to question the probability or the possibility of eternal resurrection or of eternal life! The resurrection guarantees for the believer that coming reality. "In Christ shall all be made alive!" With inspiration like this, no wonder Paul was able to write at the close of this great Chapter, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? . . . But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

At this Easter time, we are sure every heart can be lifted up into planes of faith never before realized. The hard places can be made smooth, the crooked places made straight. The weary road can be bordered with the flowers of praise, and the heavy burdens can be lightened by the resurrected Lord who said, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden," and who also said, "I am with you alway."

Paul knew the boundless joy of the Christian life would equally be fraught with the burdens of daily living. He sobered the over-zealousness of our faith by saying, "Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (I Corinthians 15:58.)

"He lives forevermore," should be the first thought of every day. "Because He lives, I too shall live forevermore," should be the next thought. Then with this faith and assurance as the base of the day, let us build a daily life that will show to those around us that we do believe in a risen Saviour who saves us from sin. With this emphasis in our lives, infection will set in. Yes, infection of others with the same living faith which is ours. Let us not only rejoice with the living Saviour on Easter, let us make every morning, every rising sun, the beginning of a day of testimony to our Risen Lord.—W. S. B.



The Resurrection of the Body

I Corinthians 15

Rev. Robert L. Hoffman

THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY is an interesting as well as a practical subject. Every Christian is interested in the subject because there is not one who has not had a loved one who has left this present life. Certainly, it has practical implications. It is surprising how little Christians know about this theme in general. Even though the belief has been weakly held by Christians in general, the church has held a strong belief in the resurrection of the body. The church formulated its doctrine of this belief in the early creeds of the church. The Apostles' Creed states very definitely " . . . I believe in the resurrection of the body . . . " It does not say perhaps, maybe, or under certain circumstances; but I BELIEVE.

It is interesting to note that the Greeks had hazy ideas about the dead as existing as shadowy spirits. Plato said that the soul must return to the body; perhaps after four hundred years. He seemed to hold some view concerning the reuniting of the soul and the body. Clear teaching on this subject, as well as on many others, was not given until the New Testament was written.

We look to the Bible then, for positive teaching on this theme. Job said, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God" (Job 19:25, 26). David expressed hope of the resurrection and the life everlasting in Psalm 16, verses 9-11. It is also interesting to note that Elijah and Elisha each raised one person from the dead, which seems to be something of a preview of the demonstrations that Jesus gave when He was here on earth. We recall that Jesus brought several people back to life, namely, Jairus' daughter, the widow's son at Nain, and finally Lazarus. Last of all, Jesus Himself, was resurrected! At this point we want to notice an important contrast. Jesus' resurrection **alone** is genuine! The other examples that were given were not resurrections but reversals of death. We realize that each of the others passed through physical death again.

There is little question but that resurrection of the body is taught in the scriptures. The questions that the Corinthians raised indicated that they wanted to know how, and the nature of the body. Their query is, "How are the dead raised up, and with what body do they come?" Everyone is familiar with the fact that the physical body grows old and after a time ceases to function. It is claimed by the forces of death. Is this body to be revived and renewed? Paul explained that the answer is to be found in nature. He gives the famous analogy of the seed. A grain of wheat will illustrate his point.

Anyone familiar with the ways of the farmer knows that when a grain of wheat is planted it passes through the process of death and disorganization as the new plant grows out of the old grain. The new seed is produced from the new plant that grew out of the old grain that died. When the new grain is produced, no one would argue that the exact same particles that composed the old grain were present in the new grain. New particles are added from the soil and from the sun and the air, but the new grain would still be recognized as wheat. Paul is saying that the new body will resemble the old, however, the same particles will not necessarily need to be present. A scientific objection is raised at

this point against the resurrection of the body. Some say that since the particles that composed the physical body enter into new combinations bodily resurrection is impossible. The same particles need no more to be present in the body than are present in the new grain. The new body grows out of the old—that is the miracle in the process!

Paul also speaks about the analogy of the diversity of bodies. Man has one type of flesh and beasts another. Fishes and birds represent still others. He says that there are celestial bodies and there are terrestrial bodies. The sun and the moon differ in glory. In other words, we want to be careful when we begin to "fence God in." God is not limited by our finite understanding. Since God made man in the first place, He can certainly accomplish his bodily resurrection. Paul in presenting these analogies of the differing bodies is indicating that the glory of the resurrected body will far outshine the earthly body.

Notice his comparisons between the earthly body and the spiritual body. "It is sown in corruption: it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonor: it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness: it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body."

Paul assures us that "flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." The body's blood is the life vitalizing principle in the physical body. This was stated thousands of years ago by Moses in Leviticus 17:11, "the life of the flesh is in the blood." This was not thoroughly understood nor appreciated until Harvey discovered the circulation of the blood in the seventeenth century. Since Paul says that "flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God," it would appear that this vitalizing principle will be replaced by one which will not be subject to corruption.

What will our bodies be like then? The Scriptures do not tell us everything about them but what it does tell us is very important. It will be a God-given body. God formed the first body. He will also form this one. Paul says in Phil. 3:21 that our vile body will be fashioned like unto His glorious body. This new body then will not be pure spirit as some have thought but it will be like Christ's resurrected body. As we know, His body was not spirit because he invited the disciples to see it and also ate before them to demonstrate this fact. Like His body, ours also will be immortal and incorruptible. This new body will be strong. It will not be subject to present limitations. To appreciate this, just recall to mind that Christ's resurrected body was not limited by time or space or by material objects. When the disciples were meeting in the locked room Christ simply appeared with all the doors and windows locked. You see, His body was not limited by matter. It is almost beyond our comprehension. We can be sure that this new body will be adapted to heavenly uses and purposes. In the Transfiguration scene it appears that we have a glimpse of Christ's resurrected body and His glory. Since our bodies will resemble His, it is logical to assume that our body will be shining and glorious as was His.

The Scriptures not only teach the truths of the resurrection, but also the resurrection of the body. We do not know every detail but the very outline is enough to go beyond our wildest imaginations. In conclusion then, we ought to look forward to this great event with a firm faith in the purposes of God. It ought to lessen our undue concern for departed loved ones. Since their identity and ours will remain we will know one another and share together the untold glories of of the Father's heaven. Also, while we remain here on earth, it ought to challenge us as never before to our work of saving the lost.

You can say with the church, " . . . I believe in the resurrection of the body!"

Smithville, Ohio.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. The Good Friday service offered a special feature for adults and children this year. With the parents attending the service in the Reformed Church, the children were cared for in their own meeting which was held in the Brethren Church.

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. The West Alexandria Church is scheduled to be the host to the Miami Valley Brethren Laymen's Rally on April 16th.

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Dedication Services, for the New Addition, which includes new Sunday School rooms, new electrical fixtures, Public Address system and redecoration of the church, was held Sunday afternoon, March 25th. Brother W. E. Ronk, of the Ashland Seminary Faculty, was the guest speaker. A full report of the day's activities will appear later in the **Evangelist.**

NEWARK, OHIO. Newark's first Ordination Service for Deacons and Deaconesses was held on March 18th. Those ordained to this office were: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon H. Wilkins, and Mr. and Mrs. Irvin F. Cooperrider.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Rev. Gerald Woodhouse is the scheduled speaker at the Elkhart Brethren Easter Sunrise Service at 6:00 A. M.

Brother R. K. Higgins is scheduled to speak at the City-wide Easter Sunrise Service, in the High School auditorium at 6:30.

FLORA, INDIANA. The Flora W. M. S. has presented the Brethren's Home with an illuminated picture, "Christ, the Shepherd."

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Guest speaker, Sunday evening, March 18th, was Armydis Sturdavent, a layman from the Friends Church.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Brother Spencer Gentle reports an attendance of 76 at a recent Mid-Week Service.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. The morning message on March 18th was brought by Richard Rupp, representative of the Gideon's Organization.

EASTER REVERIE

I like to think
  Before the gates of dawn, how tall he stood!
No man had shared the journey with him there—
  No other could.

I like to think
  The Cross was lifted from his soul at last
And he was mindful of his Father's face—
  No dimmer past.

I like to think
  Before the gates of dawn he still could see,
Far down along the Easter thoroughfare,
  Least ones like me!

—Lilla Vass Shepherd.

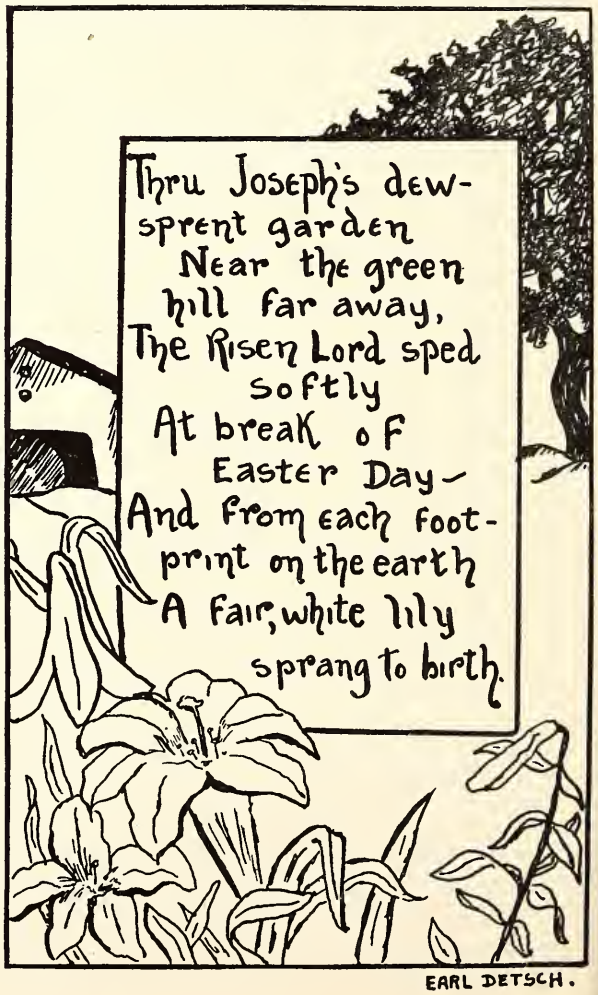
ATTENTION PASTORS:

BY THE WAY, PASTORS: If you have not yet taken the time to write out a favorite sermon of yours for the Evangelist, we suggest that you do this between now and the Pastor's Conference, bringing it along to give to the Editor.

In our **Evangelist** articles, we are endeavoring to bring to our readers articles which are Brethren, by Brethren. To do this, we must continue to receive manuscripts from the pen of Brethren ministers and leaders.

We appreciate the splendid cooperation as evidenced in the articles which have appeared on these pages from time to time. In addition to our regular, planned themes, and departments, we like to bring to our readers the devotional messages as they have been appearing under the "Favorite Sermon" series. Thus, if you have not yet sent in your message, we would appreciate your devotion to this service soon. Remember, if possible, type double spaced, and on one side of the paper, only.

ALSO, PASTORS: We still have room in our file for the 50 or more pastor's questionnaires which have not yet been returned.



MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

THE INSIDE STORY

WHEN THE LORD DIRECTED—"Go ye therefore . . . " He turned over to His believers and followers the most challenging, the most potentially productive business of all time. His challenge has been accepted by many churches and individuals down through the years with some amazing results; however, we are all aware that much more could have been accomplished and still can be accomplished if we will undertake this business with enthusiasm, using skillful and resourceful methods.

The Brethren Church, in building and maintaining an effective missionary program in Nigeria and Argentina during the past years, has achieved some rather gratifying results; but with a clearer understanding of the work on the part of all Brethren, even greater developments may follow.

Understanding our needs

Since the beginning of our mission work in Nigeria and Argentina a number of our Brethren people have supported it faithfully; but it always seems that a greater number of them might help—and more effectively—if they understood the entire picture of missions: what the needs are; where our funds are spent; and how they are distributed.

Various organizations—and sometimes individuals—have preferred to do their mission giving for definite projects. They apparently like to fulfill some unique need. Such gifts are helpful, of course; but we must guard against emphasis upon these extras to the exclusion of or neglect of our total missionary program and its basic needs. In other words, giving to these projects is fine, but such giving should be done **in addition to** supporting the fundamental expenses of missions and **not instead of them.** Otherwise, our foreign mission work may find itself in the impracticable—almost paradoxical—situation of having the non-essentials—but not the essentials for carrying on, nor the essentials for expanding.

It should be clearly understood that the Missionary Board is not discouraging or disparaging giving for projects. They appreciate and encourage such giving—but recognize that the basic needs **must** be supplied first to insure the work's continuance and development.

Basic needs of missions

Perhaps many of our people are not clear in their understanding of the items that must be supplied and the approximate funds needed to support missions in our denomination. For the benefit of those concerned, and to answer questions relating to this work, we list the following costs of our mission work in Nigeria and Argentina for one year:

Argentina:

Bylers' basic salary	$ 2,576.00
Child allowance	880.00
Rent	1,000.00
Radio work	1,296.00
Field Budget	4,000.00
Bible Institute	500.00
Buildings	*30,000.00
	40,252.00

*Not a typical expense—to be distributed over several years

Nigeria:

Liskey—Salary and work budget	$ 1,890.00
Bischofs' Salary and work budget	3,780.00
Shanks' Salary and work budget	3,780.00
Shanks' Child allowance	360.00
Transportation and freight—Shanks	1,564.09
Meadville Training Conf.—Shanks	353.15
Outfit allowance—Shanks	600.00
C. R. I. support	1,000.00
Education and Medical support	1,000.00
Furlough Salary—Janet King (2 mo.)	300.00
Bischofs' passage home	1,000.00
	$15,627.24

General Expense:

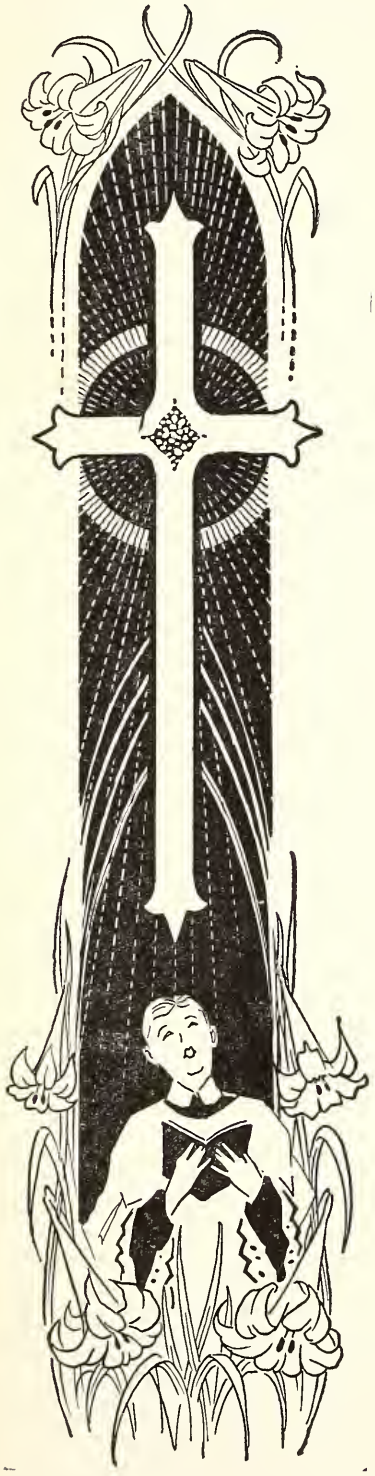
Missionary Home Maintenance	$ 429.28
Medical expense—Miss. and Cand.	600.00
Deputation expense—Missionaries	200.00
Administration—(salaries, rent, promotion, literature, office equipment, board exp. etc.)	7,830.00
Candidate training	3,799.68
	$12,858.96

Total expense for 1 year—Argentina and Nigeria	$68,738.20

With these figures in mind, which vary some from year to year—but basically run about the same—one has a better idea of where his money goes and how much is needed. Of course, we want the scope of our work to increase; we want to extend into larger fields; hence we will need to give more money and send more workers.

If the expense of carrying on the work seems large, remember that we could be sending a dozen more missionaries without involving a great deal more in overhead. A certain amount of operating cost is essential—an absolute minimum—regardless of the number of workers being sent out. Therefore, we should be sending more.

In the light of this information, you may want to give your missionary offerings to the total program, simply trusting the Missionary Board to make the distribution of funds as they are needed. This method makes their work simpler and greatly facilitates progress.



He is Risen

Matthew 28:1-10

IN the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

2 And behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it:

3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow.

4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

EASTER DAY

What has happened, Mary,
  To make your eyes so bright?
Radiant as stars they shine,
  And only yesternight
Dim they were with weeping,
  Clouded was their light—

Tell me, tell me quickly,
  Mary, whom did you see
And speak to in the garden—
  Mary—was it—he?

Lucy A. K. Adee.

THE E

Sweet Easter
Cathedral cho
  That Christ
Glad voices lo
Our hearts w
  Eternal Life

All hail the E
For him our s
  Who conque
His victory c
From him we
  Receive Ete

as He said!

6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples, that he is risen from the dead, and behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre, with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came, and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

10. Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren, that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

MUSIC

'e ringing,
singing,
viour lives!
telling,
are swelling,
ves.

nanting!
e panting,
the strife;
g,
ne blessing,
ife!

; Daniel Brodhead.

THREE LILIES

Three joyous lilies were in bloom
Beside the empty garden tomb.

One swayed gently as the breeze
Sang resurrection melodies.

One leaned down to touch the sod
Where the feet of Jesus trod.

One looked up as if to say
A prayer of thanks for Easter Day.

—E. V. Thomson.

WASHINGTON, D. C., BRETHREN CHURCH plans Mortgage Burning Service for EASTER SUNDAY MORNING

April 1, 1956

As you read in the February 11 issue of the Evangelist and also in the later report by the Missionary Board, February 5 of this year was observed as Cash Day for the Building Fund in Washington, D. C.

The day had been anticipated for some time; plans were well laid and much prayer by the pastor and people was in evidence. Since the 1955 campaign had proved so fruitful, now the entire liquidation of the present debt was hoped for. We needed almost $5,000 to accomplish this.

By the time Cash Day was over there was just about $4,500 brought to the House of the Lord by the Sunday School Classes, Morning Worship Service and Evening Bible Hour. We were about $300 short of our total objective. However, everyone in the Church knew that before long that would be in, for had not the Lord met every single obstacle thus far and given us great assurance?

Additional dollars came in until just a week ago when one of our Brethren and his wife decided they would assume the rest of the obligation and pay off the other $200. But the Brethren still didn't stop and by the time the Note was paid off there was $50.00 left over to start the new Building Fund.

I am sure the entire Brotherhood rejoices with us here in Washington, the Nation's Capital. Our congregation is not composed of wealthy people—far from it—and we take pride in the spirit of generosity and sacrifice reflected in the above results. The Sunday School Classes showed diligent work both by the teachers and pupils. Everybody had a part in this.

Our present building has been occupied for only 7 years. Our membership embraces 142. There were 129 present on the big Cash Day when the $4,500 was brought in. This included children, babies and visitors.

No one can foretell what the future years will bring in the way of furthering His kingdom in this great city, the heartbeat of our nation. We would not forget the kindness and help of many of our members who have left the city, and likewise of those who have sent in gifts from outside our membership. Their contributions helped us very greatly in reaching our objective. Friends, we are very appreciative. The Brethren in Washington have every reason to rejoice.

On Easter Sunday Rev. Clayton Berkshire, General Secretary of the Missionary Board is coming to assist us in burning our old Note. Also we will have a man from the Perpetual Building Association from whom we had borrowed the $30,000 we have paid in these seven years. On Easter Sunday Evening we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and Holy Communion. While our Pastor is holding Services in Berlin, Pennsylvania, and in Meyersdale, Pennsylvania, we will be delighted to have Reverend Fells Lam and Chaplain Donald F. Carter in our Pulpit. Also our Tuesday night Bible Class of Young Married Couples will conduct the Sunday Evening and one Wednesday night Services, bringing to the Church some of the great things they have learned in this year's course in their Bible Class. This group has met with the Pastor on Tuesday nights now for three years. They are also very active in visitation work.

We seek your help in asking the Lord's guidance about our future here. We want to go up with the top and Sanctuary just as soon as we can. We need the room and the Church atmosphere so very much.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ona Lee Sams,

Corresponding Secretary.

HOW DIVINELY FULL OF GLORY and pleasure shall that hour be when all the millions of mankind that have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb of God shall meet together and stand around Him, with every tongue and every heart full of joy and praise! How astonishing will be the glory and the joy of that day when all the saints shall join together in one common song of gratitude and love, and of everlasting thankfulness to this Redeemer! With what unknown delight, and inexpressible satisfaction, shall all that are saved from the ruins of sin and hell address the Lamb that was slain, and rejoice in His presence.—
—Isaac Watts.

The Washington Pastor, REV. J. RAY KLINGENSMITH, writes as follows:

"I thought this group of figures (below) might be of real interest and inspiration to many of our Churches in showing how this small handful of people have given.

"Will you notice that in the last 14 months they gave as much as they had given in the first 72 months? This only shows that any Church can do many times more for the Lord if they just think they can, and want to.

"Our financial Secretaries worked out this chart to show the 'per day' and 'per family' giving of our people. This is only for the Building Fund, however. Other incomes have been increasing for the Church Treasury, too.

"Rev. Clayton Berkshire will be with us on Easter Sunday morning to assist in burning the Note for the old Church loan which we have now paid off. All of the Brethren within reach of Washington are invited."

A RECORD OF A MIRACLE OF GRACE —

Which God has accomplished through a Small Congregation:

THE WASHINGTON BRETHREN CHURCH

Building Fund Report from January 1949 to February 19, 1956

Year	Total Paid	Interest and Insurance	Debt Reduced from	to	Total Reduction	Averages Daily Average	Averages Per Member During year
1949	$2,812.50	$1593.39	$30,000.00	$28,780.82	$1,219.18	$ 7.71	$19.81
1950	2,475.00	1157.88	28,888.75	27,571.63	1,317.12	6.78	17.43
1951	4,201.26	1087.83	27,675.02	24,561.59	3,113.43	11.51	29.55
1952	2,992.69	1043.94	24,653.70	22,704.95	1,948.75	8.19	21.07
1953	2,561.82	993.04	22,790.09	21,221.77	1,568.32	7.01	18.04
1954	2,925.00	835.56	21,301.35	19,211.91	2,089.44	8.01	20.59
1955	13,285.06	613.87	19,283.95	6,612.76	12,671.19	36.40	93.55
to Feb. 1956	4,725.00	24.05	6,637.56	1,936.61	4,700.95	94.50	33.27

TOTAL DEBT PAID AS OF MARCH 12, 1956

AN INTERESTING GLANCE at the total 86 months of the above report:

First 72 months the Church gave almost exactly $18,000 toward the Building Fund.

Last 14 months the Church gave almost exactly $18,000 toward the Building Fund.

Our membership, including children, is 142. We have about 42 families in all.

EVERYONE NEEDS TO SHARE IN MISSIONS
now and throughout the year
EASTER FOREIGN MISSION OFFERING
GOAL—$75,000.00

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"MEN AS TREES"—MARK 8:24

"Dear Lord, if Thou canst make so wonderful this thing called a tree
I wonder, Lord, what Thou couldst make if men would yield to Thee:
If every earth-born root, drank from the wells of God
And all day long his every breath answered Thy slightest nod?
It's bent, twisted, gnarled and time-eaten, but a glorious thing this tree,
With its heart and its arms uplifted, seeking the face of Thee.
Oh, Thou, Who made so wonderful this thing called a Tree
Take me, root, branch and all, and as the years go on apace,
Grow up in me that radiant light that shines, Lord, from Thy face."

CONSISTENT CHRISTIAN MEN are like the evergreen cedars of Lebanon (Psalm 92:12.) No matter how hard the trials of life may come, they have no time for backsliding (Psalm 112:7). No matter how ugly the natural features, when the Spirit of God dwells in a man he is handsome (Psalm 149:4). Some cedars are red on the inside, but the cedars of Lebanon are white inside (Matt. 5:8). The cedars of Lebanon are sweet smelling, which speaks of a life of self-denial and sacrifice (Songs of Solomon 4:11; Phil. 4:18; Heb. 13:15, 16). The Christian's influence is wide-spreading as the lengthy boughs of the Lebanon cedar (1 Thess. 1:8). As the cedar is always growing so the Christian grows in grace and strives for greater things ahead (Phil. 3:14). The palm lives to bring forth abundant fruit in old age, and so the last days of the Christian may be his best days (Psalm 92:14). The heart of the cedar is insect proof because of its odor, and the Christian has a sound heart (Prov. 4:23). At the least scratch the sap oozes out, so we are commanded to be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18).

The wicked sometimes spread themselves "like a green bay tree" (Psalm 37:35). King Ahab was a type of the successful wicked man in coming into his kingdom (1 Kings 16:28, 29), in victories over Ben Hadad (1 Kings 20:20, 21, 29), in acquiring Naboth's vineyard (1 Kings 21:16), in making alliance (1 Kings 22:4), and as an enterprising man (1 Kings 22:39). He played loose (1 Kings 21:25), had no moral oversight over his subjects (1 Kings 16:34), did not consider God (1 Kings 16:33), and murdered Naboth (1 Kings 21:12-24). But he failed to learn the intent of his successes (1 Kings 20:13, 28), and did not get satisfaction from them (1 Kings 20:43). He was condemned morally (1 Kings 21:19), and left a curse on his posterity (1 Kings 21:20-22). His death was in fulfillment of prophecy for his evil deed against Naboth (1 Kings 22:34, 35; 21:19).

The right kind of success is that of "The Blessed Man" (Psalm 1:1-3). He is "like a tree planted by the rivers of water," but the way of the wicked shall fail (Prov. 4:18, 19). Even in nature we can plainly see the merit of God having His way, either with a tree or a butterfly:—

God has His way with a butterfly,
Fragile dweller twixt earth and sky,
Lovely harbinger of the spring.
He tenderly fashions each gossamer wing,
Then stencils upon them His own design,
Intricate, line upon fine thin line;
Then dipping His brush in the rainbow's hue
He colors them, golden or green or blue,
And sets them adrift in the warm spring air,
Bits of loveliness floating there
Between the earth and the bending sky.
God has His way with a butterfly—
What would I be
If God had His way with me?

—Martha Snell Nicholson.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for April 8, 1956

POWER FOR A WORLD MISSION

Lesson: Acts 1:6-8, 2:22-33

CHRISTIAN MEN AND WOMEN have been **"Saved to Serve."** In other words, eternal life has been given to us with a view to a purpose. This is what Jesus meant when He said to His disciples: "I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit" (John 15:16). The word "that," in the above verse, begins a purpose clause, and could better be translated "in order that," or, "for the purpose that." With this in mind we could accurately translate the words of Jesus thus: "I have chosen you, and ordained you, for this purpose: that ye should go and bring forth fruit."

Even as it is true God saves for a **purpose**, so does He **empower for a purpose.** In Acts 1:8 we hear Christ speaking to His disciples after the Resurrection: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

A careful examination of this verse convinces us that God's wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit was for a particular purpose: **to empower men and women to carry the Gospel message to the ends of the world!**

This is what Dr R. H. Glover, former Home Director for North America of the China Inland Mission, meant in his book **The Bible Basis of Missions**: "In other words,

Christian missions and Pentecost were inseparably related—Pentecost being the essential preparation for missions, and missions being the logical and inevitable result of Pentecost."

Nineteen hundred years have passed since Christ gave the Great Commission to "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). **All these years the Church has had the blessed Gospel within its grasp. And yet, very little has been done with it!**

Again we quote from Dr. Glover, this time from his book **"The Progress of World-Wide Missions:** "It is an actual fact that heathen and Moslems are increasing far faster by natural propagation than are Christian converts by regeneration. There are actually more heathen in the world today than when Carey launched the modern missionary movement (1792)."

After receiving the Great Commission from the Lord Jesus Christ, the early disciples set forth to carry out His command. Peter started the witnessing in Jerusalem on the very day the Holy Spirit came upon the church. Three thousand were converted as a result of that one message. From Jerusalem the disciples spread out to Judaea, then Samaria, until they had reached the uttermost parts of the world. Why? **Because they felt the WOE of the Gospel in their hearts, and the GO of the Gospel in their feet!**

Bishop Frodsham, in **The Christian Age,** tells of a conversation he had with Sir William Macgregor concerning the relatively rapid progress of Mohammedanism in West Africa as compared with that of Christianity. Macgregor said: "It's just this, every Mohammedan regards himself as a missionary; the majority of Christians think it is another man's work."

God has given us a message of salvation to proclaim, and the power of His Holy Spirit to convey that message. **How can we do less than give Him our best in the great endeavor of evangelizing the world with the Gospel Message!**

"Go preach the blest salvation
To every sinful race,
And bid each guilty nation
Accept the Saviour's grace;
But bear, oh, quickly bear it
Where thronging millions roam,
And bid them freely share it,
Who dwell with us at home."

—Dyer.

What's Doing in the Churches

ROANOKE, INDIANA

I am happy to note that every thing is going strong here in Roanoke. Our attendance for Sunday School has averaged a strong 55 and our morning worship service has averaged even above that. That may seem a little odd, but we have been very pleased with the increase of attendance for our morning worship services. We are realizing a fine B. Y. C, which has just been reorganized in the past month or so. We are grateful for the help and assistance that our own Brother Robert Zent, and also so many others have given to us to make this a go for our youth.

Might I go back and reminisce to the first of October, 1955. When we arrived here at Roanoke early one morning after driving all night from West Virginia, we walked into the house that the people here had rented for a parsonage. We found a refrigerator loaded with food, a very nice gas stove, and a gas heating circulator which the good Brethren had purchased and given as a welcome gift to Judy my wife, myself, and our daughter, Paula. I might say this surely was appreciated more that we could find words to say. Then in line came our Homecoming in which we had 63 for Sunday School and several more came in for the worship service. In the afternoon service, we had as our speaker my father, Rev. Arthur H. Tinkel, Pastor of the Oakville Brethren church. This service was very well attended, with much interest shown.

Then we skip to a Sunday before Christmas. We were host to a union Christmas service. There was a play given, with the participants coming from the other two churches in town as well as ours. Our auditorium was filled to capacity.

Again, to us personally; We received several personal gifts, and on Christmas Sunday, we received a large basket filled and running over with food stuffs. Again this was a time when we could not find words to fit our feelings.

Now for the first of 1956. This year so far has found us very busy, with a number of things that are unfinished at the present. As far as Sunday School attendance, our top number has been 73, and that was just two Sundays ago. We are still realizing a greater number for the morning worship service than for Sunday School much of the time. We have started a new class for young married people and young people just out of High School. We are having monthly class meetings and are seeing a greater interest shown. The class, in hunting for a name, decided on a rather peculiar name, but I think a fitting one, "The Corner-Stones." We are praying that this class and all the other classes in the church will see a great growth both materially and Spiritually.

This spring will see us in a remodeling program on the church. There will be both interior and exterior work done with the largest thing, a new heating system being installed. There is also quite a lot of discussion as to the purchasing of a new parsonage. I think the Brethren here at Roanoke feel that a church has to start out like a small babe, by crawling, but there comes a time to start walking, however there may be some falls or bumps

along the way but with the help of God, Is there anything impossible? We here at Roanoke are accepting the good word in Isaiah 41:10; "Fear thou not; for I am with thee; Be not dismayed; for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:13; "For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I WILL HELP THEE," Truly these are great promises to stand on and we ask the prayers of all the Brethren everywhere.

I might say that February was a big time for us personally, as on the 19th day we were the parents of a 7 lb. 6¼ oz. baby Girl. We have named her Cheryl Lynn. We are happy to say that both baby and my wife are getting along fine.

As we are nearing another Easter time, this finds us in a week of union services. I will be speaking on Sunday evening and again on Wednesday evening, and I am also in charge of all the music. Along with my work at the Factory here in town, truly the work is great, but we feel that God's hand has truly been on us. Our prayer is that we may become a full time church, both in winning souls, and in our general work.

The Roanoke Brethren Church,
Paul D. Tinkel, Pastor.

THE BRETHREN'S HOME, FLORA, INDIANA

We thought you would like some news from the Brethren's Home.

Mr. Gilbert Jordon passed away February 19, aged 77 years. He had been at the Home only a little more than a month.

We have received some very nice gifts this year.

One dozen sheets from Mrs. Price of North Liberty; also canned fruit, etc., from the North Liberty Church.

A quarter of beef and canned fruit from the Teegarden Church.

Dresser scarf from two Johnstown, Penna. W. M. S.

Guests of the home from Ashland College on a recent week-end were: Lila Miller, Sue Shope, Edith Yorke of Mansfield, Marlin McCann, Jim Rowsey and Richard Kuns. They presented a very nice program to the members of the Home on Sunday afternoon.

Birthdays in March were Mrs. Florence Ailer and Mr. Roy Stonebraker.

Mrs. Russell Kuns, Matron.

CERRO GORDO, ILLINOIS

Many blessings were received during our recent Evangelistic Services. The visible results of the meetings were not great, but in our hearts we feel that Christians were brought closer to God and to greater service for Christ.

Our Evangelist, Harold Garland, during the ten day stay with us, brought many inspirational messages, which brought joy in the hearts of God's children. The greatest blessing was received at the baptismal service held on Thursday night when five who made confessions of faith in Christ and who wished to unite with the Church, were baptized and received into the church. This service was followed by our Communion Service, at which there were forty-eight in attendance. The Lord was in our presence during the past ten days.

This last group which came into the Church makes a total of nine in the past five months that the Lord has added to His Church. Pray for the Cerro Gordo Brethren Church that God will work and use it as a Lighthouse from which the Gospel shall be preached and souls won into the kingdom of God and unto the Church.

Kenneth C. Mock, Pastor.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Eph. 1:3). With this verse in mind we bring you greetings from Pleasant Hill.

Truly the Lord has done great things for us whereof we are glad. We have just closed two weeks Revival Services here with Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Thomas, of North Liberty, Indiana. The church had been much in prayer concerning the meetings, and we were trusting God to pour out His blessings upon us. We were not disappointed. God gave us a gracious outpouring of His Holy Spirit, with the result 15 accepted Christ as Saviour, 37 reconsecrated their lives to the Lord, and 5 Christians expressed a desire to join in fellowship with our church.

These figures do not fully reveal the results. A genuine spirit of conviction swept over the church, so that among the reconsecrations were many Christian people who had been away from the Lord for many years. Brother Thomas and the Pastor visited many in their homes who were visibly moved by the Spirit. Many spiritual problems were solved when people made their full surrender to the Lord. The Lord is still working in the hearts of some, and we have faith to believe more victories are yet to come.

Brother and Sister Thomas proved to be a rich blessing in our midst. Christian fellowship and unity of the Spirit were evident in our labours together. Brother Thomas brought straight-forward, true-to-the-Bible, Gospel messages each night. Our people all felt the Christian warmth, love, and sincerity of Brother and Sister Thomas. We thank God for sending them our way.

Although the weather was not always the most pleasant for special services, the attendance was very good, with an average of 121 for the 15 services.

Just a word concerning the rest of our church program. We believe the words of Nehemiah are now applicable to the people here: "For the people had a mind to work." The attendance has been slowly increasing. In 1955 the church noted a 64% increase in Morning Worship, 7% in Sunday School, and 108% in Prayer Meeting. For the first two months of this year there has been an 11% increase in the Morning Worship attendance over last year. We give all the praise to God!

The church is now in the midst of a redecorating program. The woodwork has been refinished in the back of

the church and the vestibule, and new doors have been installed both in the vestibule and the outside entrance. By Easter we expect to have wall-to-wall carpet laid, as well as new tile in the vestibule. The pews also were repaired and refinished. More work is now being considered. There are plans for Modern-Fold Doors in the balcony to provide for more class rooms. New lighting for the interior of the sanctuary is also being contemplated.

As interested as we are in the redecorating program, we are primarily interested in the spiritual development of the church. We believe the Lord has still greater blessings in store for us as people and Pastor continue to work harmoniously together. Pray for us!

William H. Anderson.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

FROM EARLIEST CHILDHOOD we are taught that God, our Heavenly Father, loves us and that He is the creator of the world in which we live. On Sundays we attend religious services where we are encouraged, admonished, instructed, so that we are brought nearer to God. On the other days of the week we are also made aware of God's goodness to us because "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge."

Sometimes a change from the man-made world in which we work is necessary and we need to go to nature for refreshment. Here the morning sunrise and the evening sunset speak to us of the majesty and wisdom of the Almighty, not just once a year or once a month but every morning and every evening. There are so many ways in which God speaks. Is there anything lovelier than the rainbow which is a promise, a sign, a token of God's goodness and love? It belongs to everyone and is a joy forever.

It is a lamentable fact that what is customary soon becomes commonplace. It seems that we do not appreciate the blessings we possess all the time. At the end of the day God has given us the sunset. For thousands of years He has done this. He rubs out one sunset then the next day He paints another and no two have ever been alike. The beauty of the colors in the western sky changes our mood and brings to us the tranquility and sweetness of a Christlike spirit. Let's spend more time in God's out-of-doors, or we can at least be more aware of it. The falling snow, the countless stars, the birds, the rivers, the trees, the flowers with their fragrance—all these God has given to us to enjoy. The world, when we see it rightly, is still the Garden of Eden, and in the cool of the day, we can still walk with God.

Mrs. J. R. Schutz,
North Manchester, Ind.

ELDER EMRA T. FIKE

ELDER EMRA T. FIKE, of Terra Alta, West Virginia, passed to the greater life beyond the grave, on Tuesday, March 20th, according to word received in Ashland this past week. Brother Fike was the Pastor of our White Dale Brethren Church, of Terra Alta. Let us remember the loved ones who sorrow at his passing, in our prayers at the throne of grace.

HOME GOING of two well known Brethren lay members took place during the month of March.

MR. A. B. (ARCH) FURRY, of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, died on March 3rd. He was a member of the First Brethren Church of Johnstown, and was very active and interested in the work of the Brethren Church, locally, in the District and in the Denomination. He served for a number of years as a member of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church.

MRS. RAY YOUNT, of Dayton, Ohio, died on March 20th. She along with her husband, were members of the Hillcrest Brethren Church, of Dayton, and Mr. Yount is well known for his denominational activities, being a member of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Ashland College, besides being actively engaged as architect and designer in church construction and building programs among the Brethren.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the loved ones who survive. May the blessed peace of our Lord bring comfort to saddened hearts, in the full assurance of His promises of meeting again in that eternal day.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

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(Easter)

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108 songs, choruses such as:

Life Begins
Summertime in My Heart

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77 songs, choruses such as:

Cleanse Me
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70 songs, choruses such as:

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51 songs, choruses such as:

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

GATEWOOD, W. VA. A recent note from Helen Swanigan, Secretary of the Gatewood Church, reads as follows:

"We called Brother Hayes K. Logan from the Pennsylvania District to be our minister. He preached his first sermon on February 12th.

"This is the first full time Pastor the Gatewood Church has ever had.

"We believe it is an answer to prayer."

BERLIN, PENNA. Ten were baptized in the Berlin Church the afternoon of March 25th.

Brother Lyle Lichtenberger says of their recent meetings with Brother J. Ray Klingensmith that the "attendance was excellent."

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. The Meyersdale Church has recently installed as deacon and deaconess, Mr. and Mrs. Peter F. Housel, and as deaconess, Miss Miriam M. Bird. The service of consecration was held on March 25th.

MOUNT PLEASANT, PENNA. The Mount Pleasant Church has called Brother George J. King to be their pastor for another year, and he has accepted the call.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Brother Elmer M. Keck has been showing his colored slides of Brethren missionaries in his services while Sister Keck reads to the congregation letters from these missionaries as they appear in The Evangelist.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. The Union Good Friday service was held in the Brethren Church, with the pastor, Brother William D. Keeling, bringing the message.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. The W. M. S. public service is scheduled for April 22nd, with Mission Secretary W. C. Berkshire as guest speaker.

CAMERON, W. VA.—QUIET DELL, PENNA. The Union Holy Week service on Monday evening was held in the Cameron Brethren Church.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Union Holy Week Services were held Wednesday evening, in the Smithville Brethren Church, with the Editor of Publications as guest speaker.

(Continued on Page 10)

COMING EVENTS

ST. JAMES MARYLAND. Evangelistic Meeting—April 16-29—Rev. L. V. King, Evangelist; Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Pastor.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Evangelistic Services—April 18-29—Emmons Evangelistic Party; Rev. R. K. Higgins, Pastor.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Evangelistic Campaign—April 18-29—Rev. Clarence Stogsdill, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Hoffman, Pastor.

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. Spring Revival—April 23-27—Rev. Loren Kolb, Evangelist; Rev. H. R. Garland, Pastor.

BRETHREN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE ON FAITH AND ORDER of 1956

Park Street Brethren Church
Ashland, Ohio

Begins .....Tuesday night, April 10th, 7:30
Closes .....Thursday night, April 12th, 8:30

CENTRAL DISTRICT
BRETHREN YOUTH
SPRING CAMP

Cerro Gordo Brethren Church
Cerro Gordo, Illinois

April 20, 21, 22, 1956

Special Speakers: Bob and Bea Bischof
Youth Banquet Speaker Rev. A. T. Ronk

K. C. Mock, Pastor,
Cerro Gordo, Illinois.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT
BRETHREN LAYMEN
SPRING RALLY—APRIL 30, 1956
7:00 P. M. Prevailing Time
JOHNSTOWN 3RD BRETHREN CHURCH
An interesting program is being arranged.

John J. Golby.

The Editor's Pulpit

Conclusions

LAST IN A SERIES

* * *

IN PREVIOUS ARTICLES in this series (Jan. 21, 1956, Feb. 18, 1956) we pointed up the fact that alcoholic beverage consumption was at an all-time high. We noted that two contributing factors were the ever increasing use of drinking in television drama programs and the unscrupulous spotting of beer ads on television. As such the **television looms as public enemy number one** for the conditioning of our boys and girls, youth, and even adults as potential and actual drinkers. We also offered some suggestions for combatting this evil power in our living rooms.

There is more to the cause and control than television, though. We now list other contributing causes of our high drink rate.

A. THE AMERICAN FAMILY'S SUSCEPTIBILITY TO ALL FORMS OF ADVERTISING THAT "BEER BELONGS," AND THAT "MEN OF DISTINCTION DRINK." Thus, in order to be socially acceptable, many American homes have their stock of liquors. If this were limited to non-church homes, our problem would be much simpler. Some of the most insidious teachings of the liquor peddling barons indicate that there is nothing wrong with drinking, and that there is much to be gained by being a regular imbiber of any and all forms of alcohol. When we try to rationalize our conduct, to the point where we don't believe the evil is as bad as our conscience tells us, we are on the road to defeat. **Christian homes must remain sacred havens in which the entrance of any form of strong drink would be considered a violation of the holy ordinances of marriage and the Christian family.**

B. THE SILENCE OF THE CHURCH ON THIS ISSUE. When last have you heard a sermon on this drinking evil? When last has there been alcohol education in your church or Sunday School? Yet all this time, through every media of advertising, the membership of the church has been receiving the "beautiful" side of the issue. We are convinced that much marital and family trouble, in and out of the church, stems from some form of alcoholic indulgence. For example: a shortage of money for food and clothing often results when parents "just had to have" that case of beer, or just had to have their night on the town. Or, the breakdown of moral restraints between drinking husbands and wives resulting in violated fidelity, with its resultant after effects, often causes much grief and broken homes.

The Christian Church presumes to be the champion of the Christian Home as a Godly institution. Then why not a concerted, planned program of alcohol education in every church? To us this represents one of the greatest opportunities in helping to hold our youth and younger married people in the total abstainer's camp.

C. A "IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME" ATTITUDE. There are no drinkers who actually intend to get real drunk, or to become alcoholics. All drinkers feel they can drink or leave it. What do you think? Quentin Reynolds in the April 1956 Reader's Digest notes that "Since 1940 the rate of reported alcoholism in this country has risen approximately 45 percent among men and 52 percent among women." Reynolds then quotes from the Yale University Center of Alcohol Studies, saying that there "are now 4,589,000 known alcoholics in the United States." Yes, more than 4½ million Americans who thought they could drink and get away with it. Note that this figure includes only those known alcoholics—people known to be sick with the drink habit. What that figure does not include are the millions of American women who sneak their nips during the day, or at night, and the fathers and husbands who just must have that little extra swallow. Figures quoted reveal that alcoholism is increasing more rapidly among women than among men. This, sad to say, includes many who are mothers of the coming generation. **There is no more Godless, hellish curse upon any nation than an increasingly drunken motherhood!**

You would think the liquor interest would have some heart on this matter. The opposite is true. BEAR IN MIND—the liquor interests don't care whether you get drunk or not—they don't care about your health, your job, your home, your family. They don't care what happens to the morals of your young people. They don't really even care whether you drink their stuff or not. THEY ARE INTERESTED ONLY in getting your dollars. FOR THIS THEY WILL BRAZENLY SEND YOUR HOME TO RUIN AND YOUR SOUL TO HELL!

What is your answer to the alcohol question? As a conscientious Christian, total abstinence is the only answer, coupled with a continuous program of alcohol education. Some may say you are overdoing your emphasis on warning people about the evils of drinking, but as **long as liquor, beer, wine and ale are advertised in our presence, there is need for alcohol education!—W. S. B.**

What About My Decision?

Rev. R. K. Higgins

(The following message brought by Rev. R. K. Higgins, Elkhart, Ind. on radio station WTRC. "The Brethren Voice" is a weekly radio program, sponsored by the church.)

* * *

IN THE 21ST CHAPTER of John's Gospel, which seemingly was an afterthought on his part, we find a very striking incident. He had apparently closed his writings with the 20th Chapter by saying, "These are written that Ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God," but then adds the 21st as sort of a postscript. He must have remembered these incidents and felt that they were very important to the completion of his task, which we know was the full Revelation of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Saviour of all Men.

It all starts early one morning as Jesus was having breakfast with His disciples on the shore of Galilee. Peter had gathered his friends about him and returned to his fishing, after the Crucifixion, Burial, and resurrection of Jesus, had left all of them perplexed and distraught. This fishing trip, I suppose, was an escape mechanism, as you and I often use some such activity to get away from the demands of life and to refresh and renew our minds, and hearts. Jesus made His third appearance unto them that morning, after His Resurrection. He brought success to their fishing enterprize; then called them ashore for the meal.

When the meal had ended they were evidently sitting about talking. And you remember the account of how Jesus turned to Peter and asked three times, "Do you love Me?" And impulsive Peter answered, "Of Course, You know I Love You." Then Jesus, with great tenderness and firmness pulled aside the Curtains of uncertainty and let Peter see just what he would be compelled to face in the tomorrows of his life. The sufferings which he would be called upon to endure and the privations he would of necessity pass through. All this, I think, rather stunned and upset Peter. He couldn't believe his ears. He hadn't counted on any such consequences of following Jesus. And when Jesus asked, "Will you follow Me?"—He didn't want to say, "Yes" unreservedly—and he didn't want to be guilty of saying "No."

He must have seen the Apostle John coming down the path, and grasped this opportunity to evade the question by asking, "Lord, what about this Man?" To which Jesus immediately replied, "If I will that he tarry until I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou me?" Peter was so human here, wasn't he? It is always so much easier to debate someone else's lot in life than to face our own responsibilities. You see, Peter didn't really want to deny his Master—he only wanted to evade the issue for a time. He wanted to sit on the sideline and pass Judgment upon the players, rather than to get into the Game. He wanted to stand in the bleachers and direct things without ever entering into the game.

And that is one of the constant perils to which life is exposed. Sooner or later all of us fall into one of two groups. We are either spectators or participants; we become either observers or actors. We either sit idly by, debating Life or we become willing to live Life. There are ever so many people in and out of the church who come upon issues, experiences and duties, and never commit themselves definitely. They just don't want to say "Yes"—and they don't want to say "No." So they just keep evading the problem by asking questions about it. Like a man juggling ivory balls, keeping them all suspended in mid air at the same time, they seek to keep their responsibilities in suspense. They never take sides —never express a conviction. They wander from

one side of the street to the other, depending upon which side the sun is shining. Always trying to send up Trial Balloons to test the direction of popular opinion before expressing themselves, or committing themselves. They are like a violinist who is always plucking at the instrument's strings to tune it, but never quite getting up enough courage to stand up and play. They are like the motorist sitting in his automobile, racing the motor and never putting it in gear to go anywhere. Now, of course—that is a very nice, comfortable way to live. An individual who never makes up his mind or takes sides just never gets into trouble. He probably never makes any enemies, but he also never sacrifices anything or carries any Cross.

This peril is found so often in the field of modern education. You must never take sides; in fact, to be open minded, we are taught to come to no real firm conclusions. Any person who stands upon his convictions is branded a Puritan. We learn how to study issues—card index and file them—then pigeonhole them. Just how false all this is—we need hardly mention. Talking about issues and Problems settles or solves nothing. One might talk until the Judgment Day about Vitamins and Calories and such, but you would still starve to death if you never ate any. Hunger can be solved only by eating. After all, God didn't send man into the World to debate and discuss its possibilities of sustaining Life—but to live in it.

The Neurotic Character of so many of our contemporary individuals is due to the fact that people are willing to live in a World of unreality and indecision. So many are forever running away from their responsibilities. I am sure that one half the frustrations of life today could be defeated with a simple "Yes" or "No." But have you ever noticed that these folks who live in indecision, always travel in crowds. They avoid being alone, not wanting to face themselves. Not realizing that it is only as you give yourself in complete abandon to some great cause or issue or purpose will your life be enriched and deepened.

Truly this is one of those periods of history when you have to make up your mind about so many things. Not since the Birth of Christ Jesus has mankind faced such tremendous choices. Profound and far reaching decisions must be made by each of us individually and by the World collectively. The attitudes and patterns of life which have guided mankind for centuries are being debated and challenged. So many are standing by asking, "What shall this man do?" Truly we are in the midst of those either/or else times. We are like a motorist driving at breakneck speed toward a fork in the road—not having made up our minds which fork is the right one. And there is so little time left in which to decide—you just have to go one way or the other. Any person today who sits idly by and says the decision will not affect him is already dead. The question today is not, "What do you think about the World?" but "What are you doing about it?"

And if this be true in the secular world it is more true in the religious world. Now I know, there are areas of life in which you can get by as a spectator. Just as there are certain facts we know and do not need to take sides about them. If we say that the chemical analysis of water is H2O—or that a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, we simply state facts. We need do nothing more about them. It is simply a matter of intelligently accepting proven facts. But when we say, "Yes, I believe in God and in the Saving Power of His Son Christ Jesus"—it means committing our life, its talents, its abilities—all of it to Him. Following Christ is more than just right thinking—it is right thinking in action. If thinking was all that Christianity involved, the Church would be only a School; instead of a Fellowship of Saved Men.

You remember Jesus asked Pilate, "Sayest thou this of thyself or hath another told it thee of Me?" Is your life a voice, or just an echo of someone elses opinion? Is it a personal conviction built upon the knowledge of what Christ did for you? What we need to hear again is the Voice of Jesus saying, "If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou Me." Listen friends, you cannot evade making a personal decision. Jesus said, "He that is not for me, is against Me." Let us not be lost in the Valley of indecision, but let each one open their Heart's Door to Him. It matters not what this other man might be doing—Jesus must needs know what you are doing for Him.

Elkhart, Indiana.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

CAUSE FOR REJOICING—Tucson, Arizona

THE TUCSON BRETHREN are growing into the new year with much hope. Two new Sunday evening youth groups were born earlier this season and are now getting on their feet. They are the "Young Adults" and the "Junior Missionary Workers." We are now proud to announce that we have a full Sunday evening program for every age group—five in all.

We were so happy for the recent visit of Reverend Clayton Berkshire. We were needing his messages on mission work and evangelism and his own personal touch. He was here for the dedication of our new Sunday School Building. That morning we had 148 in Sunday school and 163 in the worship service.

Dedication took place on January 29. The day was sunny and cool, after an early morning shower. As we gathered in the patio facing the new building at 9:30 A. M., informally, but reverently, we touched upon the events, needs and purposes which led to the acquiring of the new addition. After prayer, our pastor summed the total feelings in these words: "With hearts overflowing with praise, we now dedicate this building with our blessings. We are deeply grateful for this hallowed house for teaching His Word. We are conscious of the sacrifices which have been made and shared. We would add from the inspiration of the past, the blessed hope for the future that the ministry of spirituality in this church may be to the Glory of God."

Reverend Clayton Berkshire closed the service with a prayer of dedication; then the group quietly dispersed to the various morning classes, feeling grateful that "Our cup runneth over."

—Virginia Loveday, Corresponding Secretary.

DEDICATION SERVICE AT TUCSON

THE SEQUEL

IT WAS GOOD to spend a few days in Tucson, Arizona, and to realize that they still have "very unusual weather," (only Tucson residents and visitors can fully appreciate this expression.) Most of all, however, it was a joy to be with the Brethren there, to share in the services, to discuss privately as well as officially, the present status and the future of the work and to fellowship both privately and collectively with old and new acquaintances.

I had the privilege of taking part in the dedication of the new Sunday school unit on Sunday morning. This unit adds tremendously to their facilities and relieves the crowded condition which existed in this growing Sunday school. The addition is appreciated by teachers and pupils alike.

The church in Tucson has a remarkable opportunity, and because it is truly a remarkable church, I believe it is going to take every advantage of its opportunity. The

city has grown many blocks beyond the church location and offers a tremendous potential for the ministry of the church. Because our church is one of the older churches in this area of Tucson, it has a distinct advantage.

Pastor Vernon Grisso, along with the many other faithful workers there has done a fine piece of work in getting the church established firmly. We are beginning to see already the result of our willingness to invest rather heavily in the Tucson project. The people and the pastor are working diligently to become completely self supporting, and they should be able to accomplish this before too long.

All of us need to express our gratitude to God for the way He has guided the development of the church in Tucson.—W. C. B.

DEPUTATION EXPENSES

Since a number of churches have inquired regarding the Bischof's expenses while they are itinerating, the Missionary Board suggests that each church provide meals and lodging for them and—if possible—give an offering for their traveling expenses. (This offering will be added to the church's mission giving, in our records.)

"OPINION"

H. A. Gossard

ONE FOLD, ONE SHEPHERD

(John 10:16)

"I am the WAY and the TRUTH and the LIFE . . .
None cometh to God but by me."
My fold none can enter who try to with strife,
It's barred but to those whom I free.

"I have other sheep, but not of this Fold,
They too I must bring; there shall be
One Fold and One Shepherd." Come in from the cold,
And enter the Sheep-fold by me.

"My Father giveth me Eternal Life,
And I lay it down for my sheep."
He gives me power against sin and strife,
I love them, and for them I weep.

Some doubt; few agree that I am the Christ,
The works I do prove that I am;
The doubters and blind I have not sufficed:
They see not the Sacrificed Lamb. .....(John 1:29)

God has provided for all but One Fold;
And His Son the Door for the Sheep. (John 10:7 to 11)
And all who enter are safe from the cold, ..(John 10:9)
And "Wolves in sheep's clothing" who creep.

DURING THE LAST WORLD WAR, thousands of bombing planes were sent on missions of destruction. After the war, a few of them were taken over for commercial service. They are called "converted bombers." A converted bomber is the same plane that once carried a lethal load of destruction. It has the same wings and fuselage, the same type motors, the same cockpit and instrument panel. The bomb racks are gone. The gun turret is gone. It has a new paint job, but it is essentially the same plane. It has however, this difference. It has a new owner. It carries a new cargo. It has a new pilot. This is true conversion.

In Christian conversion, Jesus Christ delivers us from the old life and possesses us for God. He enters into the cockpit of the heart, takes over the controls and operates the old life on a new course, pointing us to a new and glorious purpose—" . . . the kingdom of God and his righteousness . . . " This means, of course, that all our relationships and activities are to be converted and viewed now in the light of our new mission. The old job, the old routine of the day, the old cargo which remains to be carried, may be lifted through Jesus Christ and moved toward God. The spiritual may invade and take over the secular through a new purpose by the power of Jesus Christ.

Do you want to venture on a sacred mission and serve an eternal cause? Then turn over the controls to Jesus Christ. Recognize the fact that you belong utterly to God. Then start operating your home, your business, your job with your heart set on God's Kingdom and His goodness. —Robert Boyd Munger, in What Jesus Says (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

EVERYONE NEEDS TO SHARE IN MISSIONS
now and throughout the year
EASTER FOREIGN MISSION OFFERING
GOAL—$75,000.00

THROUGH THE BIBLE FOR REVIVAL

MUNCIE CHURCH CONDUCTS CAMPAIGN

Daniel 11:32b . . . but the people that know their God shall be strong and do exploits.

THE CONGREGATION of the Muncie, Indiana, Brethren Church became intensely interested and blessed as they took an active part in reading the greatest of all Books, the Holy Bible. What a privilege we enjoy in our freedom loving America!

Starting at Genesis, volunteers named the book or books they would read within a couple of weeks. Then on a large thermometer chart with inch spaces allowed for each book, Genesis was recorded at the bottom of the chart through Revelation at the top; the one having read the book would color his section of the mercury.

The results obtained were as follows:—There were new recruits for reading the Bible; some became interested in reading passages heretofore not so well acquainted with; our spiritual life was refreshed by testimonial contributions of "fresh Manna" from inspired readers and great rejoicing was manifested when the goal was completed.

One night toward the close of the revival campaign, the Bible readers, each with his own Bible, participated in a Choral Reading found in Isaiah 53. There were parts for all male voices, and for all female voices. The closing part of the chapter was read in unison. All repeated John 3:16, and an appropriate hymn referring to the Bible was sung by the group who participated in this effort.

THROUGH THE BIBLE FOR REVIVAL

THE VALUE OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME

THE HOME exerts a most powerful influence on the development of a child. It is in the home environment and in their relationship with their fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers that the young boy and girl gain their first and often lasting impressions of the nature of the society which they will soon enter and of which they will become a part. The feelings, interests, emotions and attitudes a child develops during his early, formative years may set the course of his entire life. I am convinced that a home in which the principles of Christianity are taught and lived will give a youngster an extra advantage and strength in his efforts to adjust himself to the problem of growing up.

A juvenile who has been convinced of the fundamental truth of the Golden Rule need not flounder and be undecided in his attitude and relation with his schoolmates, teachers, employers and others with whom he comes in contact outside his home. His father and mother cannot expect to be by his side at all times and advise him as each problem arises; but the parents do have a responsibility to prepare him, through home training, to avoid temptation, to adhere to principles of honesty and integrity, and to make the right decisions on his own. Parents who have successfully given their children a pattern for life based on Christianity have far less reason for fear or worry about their children's welfare than parents who did not think or who neglected to take advantage of the opportunity to train their boys and girls when the opportunity was theirs.

In reviewing the case histories of men and women who have made failures of their lives and who have been forced to pay a debt to society, I am more and more impressed by the fact that many of them can trace their failure back to their early home lives. The career in crime began when they were youngsters. Their first act of lawlessness may not have been too serious; but one of the most hideous characteristics of crime is that each act of lawlessness makes it easier to commit the next. In many cases, crime is a one-way street, with few turning-off places, which leads to hearbreak and sorrow not only for the unfortunate person who becomes a criminal and treads that street, but also for those who love and care for him.

Almost two thousand years ago, the Man of Galilee showed us a way of life so true and so perfect that it has spread throughout the entire world. In the teachings of Christianity we can find the answers, the inspiration, and the strength to solve all the problems confronting us today.—by J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

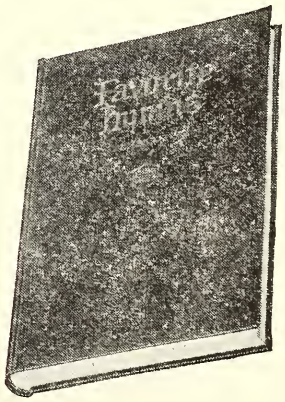
FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFERING
(Easter)

Make checks payable to The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

RULES FOR USING NEW HYMNALS

(Brother N. Victor Leatherman, Pastor of our Wayne Heights Brethren Church, Waynesboro, Penna., on the occasion of the dedication of their new hymnals, has suggested some rules for their use and care in his bulletin. We are passing them on to you because we feel every church member could well keep them in mind. W. S. B.)

1. **Use them.**
2. **Use them reverently and carefully.**
3. **Provide other things for children to occupy their attention.**
4. **Place them on end in the pew racks.**
5. **Do not take them from the Church. We will order you a book for your home.**



INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Brother John T. Byler notes that the Church bids (for their Sunday School addition) have been received and the general contract is being given.

On April 8th, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Snell are scheduled to tell of their missionary work in Mexico, and show their film about their work, in the New Lebanon Church.

The local Women's Missionary Societies' monthly news paper has a new feature in the nature of "Portrait Corner," in which a word picture is given of the members of their Societies. This latest issue contains the "portraits" of one member of each of the two Societies.

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. The recent Communion attendance is reported as being 20 over a year ago and 15 over last fall's attendance.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. The Brethren Church was host to the Union Good Friday service.

Brother W. E. Thomas was the speaker at the Palm Sunday evening Union Easter week Service held in the Methodist Church.

The North Liberty Brethren conducted services at the County Home the afternoon of March 18th.

HOWE, INDIANA. BRIGHTON BRETHREN. Dr. H. E. Weigner, of Elkhart, was the Gideon speaker in the Brighton Chapel the morning of March 18th.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. A Gospel Team from Ashland College is scheduled to conduct services in the Goshen church on April 15th.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Twelve were baptized the evening of Palm Sunday.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Brother H. Francis Berkshire reports the formation of a new class for High School graduates, with about 10 enrolled.

A visitation program has been initiated by the Lanark Board of Deacons.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. On Palm Sunday evening, 18 were added to the church, 16 of these by baptism that same evening.

SPECIAL. A note from Miss Emma Aboud, of 1760 E. Nadean, Los Angeles 1, Calif., an Elder in the Brethren Church, whose fall and injury we reported some months ago in this column, writes the following:

"I'm much improved from my injury. I can walk some with the help of God, and a walker. Please continue to pray for me, and ask that thanks be given through **The Evangelist** for all who sent me cards to the hospital and here at my home. Thanks for all who prayed for my recovery."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for April 15, 1956

THE COURAGE OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS

Lesson: Acts 4:13-20, 29-31

COURAGE WAS ONE of the outstanding characteristics of the Early Church. God given **courage** enabled Paul to stand and boldly proclaim: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Rom. 1:16). Stephen had the **courage** to stand before the godless members of the synagogue and make this indictment: "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye" (Acts 7:51). It was also **courage**, inspired by God, that enabled Peter and John to speak the truth before the Jewish Sanhedrin, as found in today's lesson.

The lesson actually begins in Acts 3, where we find Peter and John going into the temple "at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour (3:00 P. M.)." A lame man lay at the gate, begging. Taking him by the hand, Peter said: "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (vs. 3). Instantly the man was healed—completely healed—"and he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God."

A great throng of people had gathered as a result of this miracle. Peter took advantage of the opportunity to witness to all the people concerning the Resurrected Christ.

The religious leaders were "grieved (sorely troubled) that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead" (4:2). Therefore, "they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day."

The next day Peter and John were taken before the Sanhedrin. When confronted by the religious leaders, the two Apostles spake boldly of the Lord Jesus Christ, charging the religious leaders with the responsibility of putting their Master to death!

To make such bold accusations demanded Godly courage and fearlessness on the part of these two disciples. The Jewish Sanhedrin had administrative authority and could order arrests. It could even sentence to death, provided the sentence was confirmed by the Roman authorities.

Were Peter and John naturally courageous men that they could stand so boldly when in danger for their very lives? Not so! Less than two months before this time we find evidence they had been guilty of **cowardliness!** When Jesus was apprehended by the soldiers and carried off to trial, Peter "followed afar off" (Luke 22:54). A short time later, Peter denied that he ever even knew Jesus! Matthew tells us this: "Then all the disciples forsook Him (Jesus), and fled" (25:56).

What was it that turned fearful, weak, vacillating men, into stalwart courageous Men of God? The answer: The power of the HOLY SPIRIT! Peter and John's experience with the Sanhedrin transpired after the Day of Pentecost—after the Holy Spirit had come upon them!

Notice Acts 4:31: "And when they (all the disciples) had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the Word of God with boldness."

Courage to speak out for the Master! Courage to stand firmly and stedfastly on our God-given convictions! Courage to face trial and tribulation and come out victoriously! This will be ours, if we as a Church will but yield ourselves wholly to God, and seek for the infilling of God's Holy Spirit in our lives!

In Memoriam

HOSTETLER. Mrs. Cora Hostetler, 82, of Johnstown, formerly of Oakland, Md., died, Feb. 21st. Born at Accident, Md., Sept. 6, 1873. Married, May 7, 1895, to Henry C. Hostetler, who preceded her in death. Survived by 12 children, 52 grandchildren and 3 sisters. Life-long member of the Brethren Church, first at Summit Mills, Pa., and more recently, Second Brethren Church, Johnstown. Active member of W. M. S., C. E., and Welcome All Bible Class. Services held on Feb. 24th at the church, with Rev. Robert Cessna, Supply Pastor, officiating. Interment in Richland Cemetery.

Mrs. Allen E. Hostetler, Corr. Sec.
Second Brethren Church, Johnstown, Pa.

* * *

MOODY. John Moody died Oct. 6, 1955, following a severe stroke. Funeral services by the pastor in the Masontown Brethren Church, Oct. 9th. Interment, Smithfield, Ohio.

MASON. Samuel Mason, 79, died Feb. 17th. Was ill with cancer for the past several years. His testimony and Christian witness during this period was something that only God could give to one of His own. Services conducted in the Masontown Brethren Church, Feb. 20th, with interment in the Masontown cemetery.

WILLIARD. Miss Vina Williard, born May 6, 1876, died Jan. 1, 1956. Joined the Brethren Church Oct. 22, 1922. As a tender flower closes its petals and hides away until its reopening, so this exemplary Christian woman passed from this life to be with the Saviour on New Year's Day. Services conducted by her pastor, and Rev. C. W. Idler, of the Masontown Presbyterian Church. Interment, Mennonite Greendale Cemetery, Masontown.

Wm. D. Keeling, Pastor.

* * *

PARTRIDGE. Earl Partridge, 69, well known farmer of the Tiosa vicinity, died, Dec. 26, 1955. Married to the former Faye Wynn, Nov. 17, 1910. Long been a member of the Tiosa Brethren Church. Survived by his wife, and three married sons. Funeral services, Tiosa Brethren Church, with Rev. Gilbert Maus, officiating.

Mrs. Otto Kath, Ch. Corr.

* * *

BENSHOFF. Lewis M. Benshoff, 76, of Erie, Penna., formerly of Johnstown, Penna., died Jan 26, 1956. Son of Benjamin and Catherine Benshoff. Preceded in death by first wife, Bertha Mae Eppley, and five children. Survived by widow, Josephine Jesse Felix Benshoff, and five sons and four daughters, one sister, Mrs. Mattie Lewis, Johnstown, and 12 grandchildren. Member First Brethren Church, Johnstown. Funeral services held at Johnstown on January 30th. Interment in Benshoff Hill Cemetery. Rev. W. A. Ogden, Pastor of the Church, in charge.

Lewis Benshoff was the last of seven boys in a family of seven boys and seven girls long active in the work of the Brethren Church in and around Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and throughout the Denomination. One brother, David F., was long active in the work of the Third Church, Johnstown, the Pennsylvania District, and also served as Treasurer of the General Conference. Floyd, a son of Dave, also served as General Conference Treasurer, and is active in the Third Church and the Pennsylvania District. William C., another brother of Lewis, served the Brethren Church as a pastor and evangelist for over 40 years. W. St. Clair, a son of William, presently serves the Church as Editor of Publications. Mrs. William Faust (Caroline), a daughter of Lewis, is the Treasurer of the new Brethren Church at Sarasota, Florida.

» » » » Our Poet's Corner « « « «

Comfort for This Day

I shall not grieve today, nor fear
Tomorrow's darkling hour,
For even as I rise from prayer
I feel God's healing power.

He bends His ear to listen for
His children's faintest sighing;
Gives all we need to make each day
Completely satisfying.

I put my trust in Him who brings
Rejoicing in our sorrow;
Who always makes a glad today
Of yesterday's tomorrow.

—Marjorie Allen Anderson.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"O DAY OF REST AND GLADNESS"

On thee at the creation,
The light first had its birth;
On thee for our salvation,
Christ rose from depths of earth;
On thee our Lord victorious
The Spirit sent from Heaven;
And thus on thee most glorious
A triple light was given.

—Christopher Wordsworth.

THE EARLY CHRISTIANS had a first day Sabbath because three great events took place on the "first day of the week." On the "first day of the week" the Lord Jesus Christ arose from the dead (Matt. 28:1-7). On the first day of the week the Holy Spirit came to empower believers for soul winning (Acts 2:1-4; 20:16). On the "first day of the week" the Christians met in their assemblies for worship, and to hear the reading of the Word of God, and the preaching of the Word (Acts 20:7). On Saturday the body of the Lord Jesus Christ was yet in the tomb. Is it not better to hallow and commemorate the first day when He was "raised for our justification" (Rom. 4:25) than the seventh day Sabbath which was "a shadow of things to come" (Col. 2:16, 17).

Under the old economy God blessed and sanctified the seventh day (Gen. 2:3). The Sabbath observance was first given in Exodus 16:29, 30. The Sabbath was given in the wilderness (Neh. 9:14; Ezek. 20:12). The Sabbath law is incorporated in the Decalogue (Ex. 20:8-11). And this was the manner of keeping the Sabbath: (a) They were to do no work (Ex. 31:14, 15; Deut. 5:12-14); (b) They were not to go out on the Sabbath (Ex. 16:29); (c) They were not to kindle a fire on the Sabbath (Ex. 35:3).

The Sabbath observance was new to Israel because: (a) They did not know how to prepare victuals (Ex. 16:22-24); (b) They did not know how to keep the Sabbath (Ex. 16:27-30); (c) They did not know how to deal with the Sabbath offender (Num. 15:32-36). The Sabbath was given to Israel (Ex. 31:13; Deut: 5:2, 3). The Sabbath was a memorial of their deliverance (Deut. 5:15). The Sabbaths were among the shadows under the law (Col. 2:16, 17). The Jewish feasts and Sabbaths were to

Summer Camps Sponsored by the National Sunday School Association of The Brethren Church

1956 Camping Season

Camp Pinnacles (Southeast):

(Wardensville, W. Va.)

July 1-7

Camp Juniata (Pennsylvania):

(Entriken, Penna.)

Seniors-Young People June 24-July 1
Juniors . . . . . July 1-6

Camp Zion (Ohio):

(East Sparta, Ohio)

Juniors . . . . . June 17-23
Intermediates-Seniors . . . June 24-30

Camp Shipshewana (Indiana):

(Brethren Retreat, Shipshewana Lake, Ind.)

High School . . . . . June 17-23
Southern Ind. Intermediates June 24-30
Southern Ind. Juniors . . . . . July 1-7
Northern Ind. Intermediates July 8-14
Northern Ind. Juniors . . . . July 15-21

Camp Blackhawk (Central):

(Muscatine, Iowa)

July 2-8

Camp Wyandotte (Mid-West):

(Piper, Kansas)

July 30-August 5

cease (Hosea 2:11). The Sabbath and other of Israel's ceremonies are often named in the New Testament (Matt. 8:4; John 2:13:5:1), but no where in the New Testament are we commanded to keep the Sabbath.

The first day Sabbath was prophesied in Psalm 118: 22-24. It was to be a day of rejoicing because the stone was to be placed as head of the corner on that day (Rom. 1:4; Matt. 28:8). Paul and Peter pointed out the joy of the resurrection; the event made the day memorable (1 Thess. 4:14-18; 1 Peter 1:3). The first meeting of Christ with His disciples after His ressurrection was on this day (John 20:19-23). His second meeting was on the same day (John 20:26-29). Pentecost, or the feast of weeks, came on the first day of the week (Lev. 23: 15, 16). Pentecost was the day of spiritual power to the church (Acts 2:1-4; 20:16). Paul bade us lay by God's portion of our income on the first day of the week (1 Cor. 16:2). This message was general (1 Cor. 4:17; 7:17; 16:1). The disciples met for public worship on this day (Acts 20:7). John was in the Spirit on this day, the Lord's day (Rev. 1:10). Paul spoke of the Lord's cup, the Lord's table (1 Cor. 10:21), the Lord's supper (1 Cor. 11:20). Christ spoke of "my supper" (Luke 22:30). John spoke of the Lord's day. Christ is the Author of each.

"Oft as returns the Holy Day,
The Day of sacred rest,
Thy house, O God, Thy people throng,
With hearts divinely blest.

"The Lord is good, His mercy shines,
Thro'-out all nature fair,
His churches shall with joy resound,
While we His works declare.

"Here bless the Lord, here praise His name,
And here His triumphs sing,
Here, ye His saints, your homage pay,
And glorify your King."

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

WORD ABOUT B. Y. PROJECT

AS YOU KNOW, almost since the inception of Brethren Youth as a national organization young people and adults alike have cooperated in yearly endeavors to meet a national missionary goal. At one time the project was sending aid to South America, the "Amor" Project. Again, Brethren Youth purchased a prefabricated chapel for use in building new churches. Right now that chapel is being used at Newark, Ohio—formerly it was used at Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. Then there came the big Kentucky gymnasium project; later the B. Y. Station Wagon, Susan Byler, Shanks-to-the-Philippines project; then the Jeep-Trailer project for Africa (our biggest). Each of these projects went over the goal mark with a resounding bang. But our church has begun to cry that **Brethren Youth** is becoming a second Missionary Board, and gives everything to someone else, while they continue to ask for money for their depleted funds. WHY DOESN'T BRETHREN YOUTH DO SOMETHING FOR ITSELF? This has become the sixty-four (thousand?) dollar question.

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING

THIS BRINGS UP another matter: the Brethren Youth Offering which is lifted in the month of May each year, the third Sunday. Most people confuse the project WHICH HERETOFORE HAS BEEN LEFT UNTOUCHED BY BRETHREN YOUTH and given to someone else, with the May offering. The May offering goes into the general fund of Brethren Youth, and covers regular (inevitable) expenses for the national organization. Each year these expenses have gone higher and higher, just as your own expenses go higher because of the increase in cost of materials. We now own a Station Wagon in which our Ambassadors and Crusaders each summer travel to the churches to bring inspiration and to assist in religious work. Also, the Youth Director travels rather extensively in this much-needed vehicle. It is cheaper than paying others six or seven cents per mile, but still there is insurance to buy, tires, gasoline and oil, upkeep and repairs to pay for.

Since the big Founders fire Brethren Youth has been trying to get equipment to replace the loss, but it is a slow and somewhat expensive process. At present the Northeastern Ohio Youth District has pending a project of buying a new Gestetner mimeograph machine—a color printing apparatus! Brethren Youth is standing the nearly six hundred dollars until the district can raise the money within the next year or two.

Most people do not realize the extent to which the Youth Director is called upon to speak in churches, Youth Rallies and other gatherings all over the Brotherhood. From one year ago November 1 (1954) to November 1, last fall (1955) the Youth Director was away from his family rendering service, ideas and advice, and speaking in churches from Sergeantsville, N. J., to all of the Brethren Churches and camp in California, taking in many of the churches between. This travel costs—though that was an unusually busy year. Besides being away from Ashland on weekends and at special meetings and rallies, he was on the road fifteen weeks when the work meant being gone from Ashland a week at a time, or more.

HOW THE EXPENSE WAS MET

The May offering, plus the free will offerings from churches when the speaker departed, allayed the cost. This perhaps sounds too costly to you, but I should like to give you a couple of statistics in regard to the financial support of Brethren Youth by the Brethren Church. Less than TWENTY CENTS per member per year has been given in support of the Brethren Youth May appeal. An additional FIVE CENTS per member can be added to account for the special gifts and free will offerings. This means that the ENTIRE BRETHREN YOUTH PROGRAM has cost the Brethren Church approximately twenty-five cents (25c) per member for a

whole year of inspiration and service! This pays The Youth Director's salary as well as all other expenses.

WHAT WE NEED NOW

Unless we, the Brethren, get with our Brethren Youth program and give it a lift this year we are in danger of either losing the work or making it practically impossible to carry on the type of work which we have been doing. My personal opinion is that Brethren Youth exists for the purpose of giving inspiration and service, and without a complete program Brethren Youth would be valueless. But, given that complete support and confidence, Brethren Youth can give something to the Brethren Church that she never dreamed possible! Give as much as FIFTY CENTS per member for one year and you will see what I mean! We can no longer beg and borrow services of people, pleading for greatly reduced prices of material, or in any other way continue to ask favors for nothing in return. It is high time we stood on our two feet respectably and faced the world with a challenge in our hearts to make converts of young people and render a greater Christian service to the Church. BUT WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOUR HELP! No longer can we take last position in your thoughts and support and render first services.

MAY OFFERING THIS YEAR: as usual, only bigger.

B. Y. PROJECT THIS YEAR: **$6,500 to get Brethren Youth on its feet.**

NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATON OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH RECEIVES RECOGNITION FOR SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

TO THE RIGHT, we reproduce a letter from Church Extension Service as received by Dr. Joseph R. Shultz, Field Representative of the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church. The letter refers to special Sunday School promotional materials prepared by the N. S. S. A. of the Brethren Church and mailed to all Brethren pastors and Sunday School Superintendents prior to last Christmas.

Permission for C. E. S. to use the materials has been granted; the materials will subsequently appear in their publication, "Minister's Practical Idea Kit," which has a wide circulation in many denominations.

SAMUEL J. HINDS . . . Publisher
GEOFFREY W. ROYALL . . . Editor

Church Extension Service

BOX 552 • GOLDEN, COLORADO

December 28 55
Nat'l S.S. Ass'n. of The Brethren Church
Ashland College,
Ashland, Ohio.

Brethren in Christ:-

A Methodist subscriber (a minister) to the Minister's Practical Idea Kit, of which I am editor, sent me several Sunday School attendance booster sheets you had mailed him as samples.

May I congratulate you on your foresight in providing your denomination with these promotional items.

We wondered if we might have your permission to make these sheets or at least portions of them...available to all denominations? That is to make them available with a blank space at the bottom right hand corner where the individual pastor who used them would rubber stamp his own schools name and address etc.

Such a courtesy will be much appreciated and provide a much needed item for brother pastors of all faiths.

Cordially yours in Christ,

Geoffrey W. Royall, Editor.

Wedding Announcement

EICHELBERGER-ROBERTS. Guy E. Eichelberger and Miss Evelyn Roberts, both of Williamsport were united in marriage in the St. James, Maryland, Brethren Church, Friday night, March 16, at 7:30. The single ring ceremony was used by the writer. The bride is a loyal member of the St. James Brethren Church.

Freeman Ankrum.

News From Our Churches

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. SECOND BRETHREN

Sunday, March 18, 1956, eleven who had previously confessed their faith in Christ, were baptized, at Second Brethren, by Rev. W. B. Brant, pastor of the Brethren Church at Vinco, near Johnstown. Rev. Robert Cessna, supply pastor, assisted in the service. The new members were received into the fellowship of the Church Palm Sunday.

Thursday, March 22nd, a Homecoming was held at the Second Church, for Bob and Bea Bischof. Included in the program was the film, "You Can't Win." The Woman's Missionary Society served a fellowship lunch. During the evening, the Bischofs were presented the following gifts: a pressure cooker, stainless steel mixing bowls, sheets, pillowcases (now being made by W. M. S.), tea towels, a gift certificate of $25.00 and a check for each a raincoat. In addition to the above gifts, the church gave Bob $100.00 for the Mission Board.

Friday, March 24th, Bob and Bea showed their slides, explained their work in Nigeria, and presented a challenging program for reaching the lost. Bob also spoke at the Palm Sunday morning worship service when he also officiated at the reception service for new members. In the evening he conducted the Communion Service. We thank the Lord for having fellowship with the Bischofs and for their fine Christian testimony.

Rev. Robert Cessna.

AKRON, INDIANA
COOPERATIVE BRETHREN

Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, pastor of the Park Street Brethren Church of Ashland, Ohio, was invited for a week of meetings for our church at General Conference last year. The dates, March 19th through 25th, were settled on and plans were made for the week.

Preceding this Spiritual Emphasis Week, about 20 members of the congregation took part in a program of Visitation Evangelism.

During the meetings, there were good crowds. People of the two other churches in town came out to hear Rev. Fairbanks. Music was furnished by the Manchester College students. The emphasis for the week was spiritual growth, and we know that many grew closer to God due to Rev. Fairbanks' inspirational and thought provoking messages.

Akron Cooperative Brethren Church
Ralph McFadden, Pastor.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH

Hebrews 12:1-2

"WHEREFORE seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Faith is the key to the Christian life. The saying "Life begins at 40" is all wrong. Life begins when we accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour, the author, and finisher of our faith. Christian faith is an active commitment to the way of life, an active relationship with God.

That way of life is open to everyone. We start equal there. Someone has said, "the ground is level at the foot of the cross. But there is only one way to go from there." Jesus has said, "If anyone will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

"I saw a cross that bore my name.
'Mine' I said, 'it shall never be.'
Until chagrin brought sense of shame
It might have lifted me."

Faith in the cross of Jesus gives us an inner strength and power to accept our own cross. Without faith we are blind. When we put on the glasses of faith we are no longer in darkness. We see things in a new light and understanding of truth.

"It fortifies my soul to know
That tho' I perish, Truth is so.
That howsoever I stray and range
Whate'er I do, Thou dost not change.
I steadier step, when I recall
That if I slip, Thou dost not fall."

Jesus, who said, "I am the Way" is the same yesterday, today, and forever—He is the Author and Finisher of our faith.

"I must needs go home by the way of the cross
There's no other way but this.
I shall ne'er get sight of the Gates of Light.
If the way of the cross I miss."

Mrs. Marie Wertenberger,
Laketon, Ind.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

Practical Plans for Programs

Ideas for Boys' and Girls' Programs
By Anderson and Carlson. For leaders in junior age groups. Program suggestions that are effective and workable. Paper, 60¢

Ideas for Young People's Programs
By Anderson and Carlson. 140 programs especially designed for youth. Paper, 60¢

Ideas for Musical Programs for Young People's Groups
By Anderson and Carlson. Short, pungent original ideas. Paper, 60¢

Encyclopedia of Devotional Programs for Women's Groups
Compiled and edited by Al Bryant. 52 complete programs including special music suggestions, opening and closing prayers, complete texts of devotional talks. 288 pages. $2.95
(If ordered before Dec. 31, 1955 — only $2.45 — Save 50¢!)

Religious Plays That Click!
Compiled and edited by Al Bryant. A compilation of five plays, each one timed for production, with complete and simple to follow instructions for staging and costuming. Includes 2 Christmas plays and 3 regular plays. Paper, $1.00

How to Plan and Conduct a Junior Church
By Eleanor Doan. Valuable pointers on organizing and conducting a junior church plus seven completely planned worship services. Illustrated. Paper, $1.50

52 Workable Young People's Programs

Workable Prayer Meeting Programs
By Theodore W. Engstrom. "Full of excellent programs. A complete program for each week of the year." *Baptist Bulletin.* Each, $2.00

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By Roberta Patterson. With Installation Service Programs and Ideas. Paper, $1.00

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By Lora Lee Parrott. Each book contains 18 all-new and all-original programs for women's groups. Paper, ea., $1.00; Cloth, ea., $1.50

Young People's Programs in a Nutshell Nos. 1 and 2
By Leslie Parrott. ". . . seventy briefly suggested youth program ideas (in each book)." *The Standard.* Paper, each, 75¢

Programs for Boys & Girls
By Leslie Parrott. Delightfully different programs for spring and summer. Complete from opening song to closing prayer. Paper, $1.00

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By Robert Parsons. "4 programs with parts for 4 people . . ." *Pentecostal Evangel.* Paper, 60¢

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52 Complete Young People's Programs
By George F. Santa. A lifetime of ideas and suggestions to keep up interest in young people's work. 6" x 9"; illustrated. $2.50

Youthspiration Handbooks Nos. 1, 2 & 3
By George F. Santa. Program ideas, poster suggestions, promotion suggestions, etc., each one new, different and unique. Paper, ea., $1.00

"Act-Em-Out" Stories for Children's Programs
By Harry C. Trover. $1.00

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Ashland, Ohio.

MANCHESTER COLLEGE LIBRARY
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

The Brethren EVANGELIST
Official Organ of The Brethren Church

Living Sermons

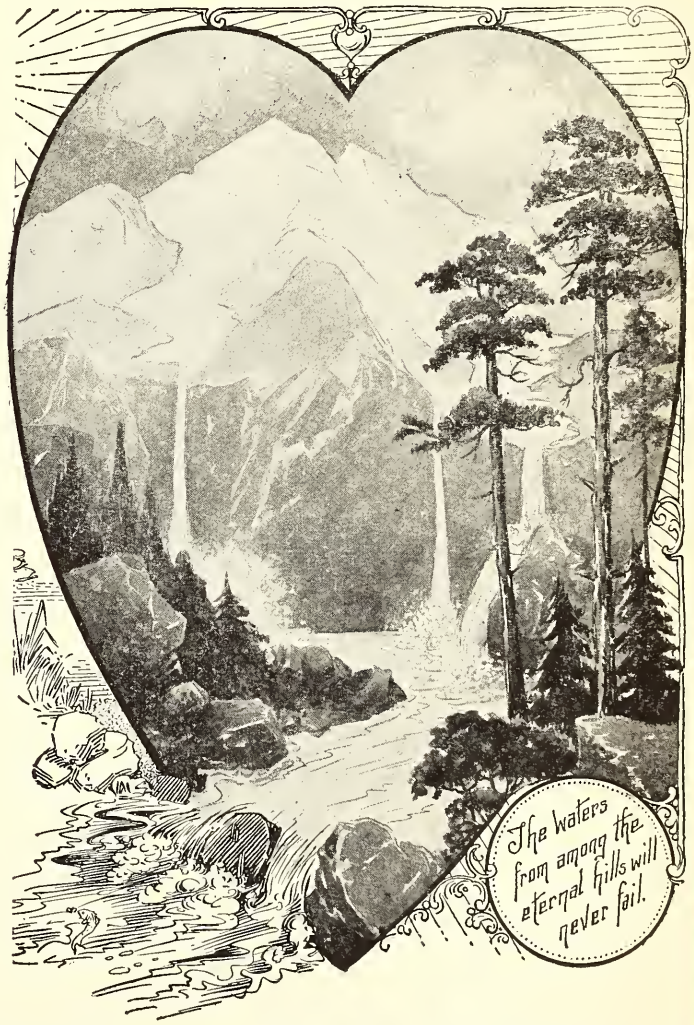
e isn't a word that a preacher can say
matter how lovely or true,
s there a prayer that his eager lips pray
at can preach such a sermon as you.

vowed to serve Christ, and men know that
you did—
ey're watching the things that you do;
e isn't an action of yours that is hid,
n are watching and studying you.

say you're "no preacher"; yes, but you
preach
wonderful sermon each day.
acts of your life are the things that you
teach—
isn't the things that you say.

hristians were Christians, as they profess,
en would notice their glorified mien;
say, "What wondrous things they possess
ho follow the meek Nazarene."

stians, remember you bear His dear name,
ur lives are for others to view;
are living examples—men praise you or
blame,
d measure your Christ by you. —Sel.



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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz writes: "We had 75 present on Palm Sunday and a hundred or more on Easter Sunday."

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Bad weather prevented Maryland's Governor, Theodore R. McKeldin, from making the trip to St. James for his speaking engagement the evening of March 18th.

The St. James Father and Son banquet was a scheduled event of April 11th.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. Guest minister over Easter was Brother D. C. White. Brother White conducted communion services for the Third Brethren the evening of Good Friday, and brought the messages on Easter Sunday.

CAMERON, W. VA.—QUIET DELL, PENNA. Brother Cecil Bolton, Jr., was the speaker for the Wednesday evening Union Holy Week service, held in the Methodist Church.

CANTON, OHIO, TRINITY BRETHREN. Three new members were received into the church recently.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Brother Robert Hoffman writes: "We had four babies dedicated during our morning service on Easter. Eight fine young people from our Junior Departments gave their hearts to the Lord during our Easter Services. All eight were baptized and received into membership during the evening worship hour."

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. Four new members were received by baptism, on Palm Sunday.

NEWARK, OHIO. Brother William S. Crick notes in his bulletin: "The first Brethren (Dunkard) Communion Service ever to have been held in Newark, or in Licking County, was conducted in The Chapel on Palm Sunday evening, March 25th; twenty-five taking their places around the Lord's Table."

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Brother L. V. King notes in his bulletin: "Easter Sunday School attendance went way over the previous high, with 234 present."

ARDMORE, INDIANA. Mrs. Marshall Harman, Corresponding Secretary sends us the following note: "Average attendance in Sunday School for the first quarter of 1956 was 165. Sunday School attendance Easter Sunday was 220."

WABASH, INDIANA. COLLEGE CORNER BRETHREN. The April 8th Brethren Minister's Pulpit Exchange, as reported to the Editor through bulletins from the College Corner, North Manchester and Huntington churches, was as follows: Brother G. Bright Hanna, of College Corner, at North Manchester; Brother Thomas A. Shannon, of Roann, at College Corner; Brother Henry Bates, of North Manchester, at Huntington, and Brother Edwin Puterbaugh, of Huntington, at Roann.

(Continued on Page 7)

COMING EVENTS

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Evangelistic Campaign—**April 18-29**—Rev. Clarence Stogsdill, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Hoffman, Pastor.

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. Spring Revival—**April 23-27**—Rev. Loren Kolb, Evangelist; Rev. H. R. Garland, Pastor.

CAMERON, W. VA. Annual Dedication Day Anniversary and Roll Call—**April 22nd, morning and afternoon**—Rev. W. S. Crick, Speaker; also at Quiet Dell, evening; Rev. Cecil Bolton, Jr., Pastor.

CENTRAL DISTRICT
BRETHREN YOUTH
SPRING CAMP
Cerro Gordo Brethren Church
Cerro Gordo, Illinois
April 20, 21, 22, 1956

Special Speakers: Bob and Bea Bischof
Youth Banquet Speaker Rev. A. T. Ronk

K. C. Mock, Pastor,
Cerro Gordo, Illinois.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT
BRETHREN LAYMEN
SPRING RALLY—APRIL 30, 1956
7:00 P. M. Prevailing Time
JOHNSTOWN 3RD BRETHREN CHURCH
An interesting program is being arranged.
John J. Golby.

The Editor's Pulpit

Exercise Needed

RECENTLY WE READ a short item about a conversation between a church member and a new pastor. When the new pastor had come to the field, one of the more self-satisfied members came to him and said, "Pastor, I hope you will feed the sheep."

The pastor looked closely at the member and quickly replied, "You don't need food; you need exercise!"

We imagine this was quite a shock to this established pew occupier, but we rather feel that the parson was quite right.

Yes, we know the minister is to feed the flock, for the Lord in talking to Peter said, "Feed my sheep." And so, faithful pastors, worldwide, "feed" their congregations, week after week, and year after year. Good feeding in a flock pays dividends for the life-time of the sheep. Not too long ago, for instance, this Editor was in conversation with a man who spoke of early training in the church which had enabled him to be a stronger Christian through the years. A good pastor will surely feed his congregation on the living Word and give them to drink of the living Water. A congregation thus fed and watered will know what they believe, and why; it will be to them strength and energy and stability for a life-time. God bless the good feeding pastors.

But, have you thought about when the Lord told Peter to feed His sheep, as to why the sheep were to be fed spiritually? Certainly not that they might become fat, self-satisfied and contented in their religious fold, grunting and groaning their way to the pearly gates.

No, we believe the Lord had another reason; we believe the new pastor of the church mentioned above, had the answer. We are told in the Word to be doers of the Word also, and not hearers, only.

John Smith, we believe it was, said relative to the pioneers in one of America's new colonies years ago, "He who does not work shall not eat." What was true in his day could well be considered by our churches in this modern era.

The Christian Church is a place of instruction in the things of the Lord; it is also a "take-off" base for Christian service. **No person has a right to accept the gift of salvation and the nurture and feeding provided by the church unless he renders satisfactory service according to his abilities, possessions, and talents.** The Lord had a slightly different way of saying it: "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh away." "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."

Fruitbearing in the Christian life is akin to Christian exercise in service. The human body was designed to keep busy and active except for the proper hours of rest and sleep. Likewise, the regenerated soul is happy and contented when being given spiritual exercise—Christian service.

So, if perchance you have discovered a slight heaviness or discontent in your Christian life, perhaps what you need is a little more activity in Christian service.

In the words of Longfellow:

"Let us then be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait."

—W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Agnes Mack Leckrone

JUST THREE YEARS before the death of George Washington, and only a few years following the close of the Revolutionary War, there came to south-western Pennsylvania, a young couple. They came from the more thickly settled section of the state, in and around Waynesboro. The tide of emigration was swiftly flowing westward. In as much as the predominant nationality of the eastern Pennsylvania settlers was German, they were naturally inclined to be somewhat clannish. One would go to the west, write back home and another would follow. In the matter of a few years a large number of them had settled in south-western Pennsylvania.

Jacob Mack, said Good Bye to his father, William, numerous cousins and other relatives and with his young wife Nancy took his savings and started over the trails blazed by Braddock and other travelers and Traders for the promised land some one hundred and fifty miles away. Their trip would be of interest, but likely it was much like that of every other settler on his western trek.

The Author in searching through the old records in the Court House in Uniontown, came upon the following. "Jacob Mack bought land and a Mill on Brown's Run in 1786." Inasmuch as Jacob was then only 13 years of age, and the indenture was signed by his wife Nancy, there is just one conclusion. It is that the copyist made a mistake and placed an "8" where should have been a "9." However the record was old and faded which may have aided in the error. Jacob purchased a small acreage, he was not intending to make his living by farming, but by the trade he knew so well, that of a Miller. He had no need of a large tract of land, The Mill with its neighboring fields, the valley, the Mill dam, and the ever flowing stream furnished all his needs. The road was rough and long, improved highways were non existent. Uniontown was just a struggling village, the County Seat, with the frame of the Court House being erected on the western side of the towering Mountain. Yet there were many travelers seeking their fortune in the new lands.

Jacob and Nancy Mack settled down in the house on the bank above the Mill. The young German couple were busy, so far away from home and kin. They were among the German speaking people of their Nationality. While the house still stands with much of its strong walnut log construction, it has been remodeled several times.

It is not the intent of this article to enlarge upon the experiences of Jacob, but to take up the history of their first child. When Jacob was 24 years of age there came into their home their first born. They gave the name of Agnes to the little girl who first saw the light of day on Brown's Run, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, on January 10, 1797. Space allotted to this article will only afford the high spots of a long life and history of this personage. Suffice it to state that she was the first of seven children. They were Agnes, Sarah, John, Jacob, Alexander, Polly and Anna.

The childhood of Agnes must have been filled with more interests than that of the average child on the western fringe of civilization. Just over the ridge to the west was the growing village of Mason's Fort, later to be named Masontown. Here was the Mill with its coming and going of tradesmen. The rolling hills over which to roam, seeking berries, and the ever changing stream along which she could play with her younger brothers and sisters when the duties of the strict German household permitted; always held out something new.

Religious services were held in the commodious home, for Jacob was strong in the faith of Grandfather Alexander, Jr., and great Grandfather, Alexander Mack. In fact some called the house "Mack's Church." The writer has no information to the effect that the use of the term was encouraged.

Agnes grew to womanhood on the Run, associating with the neighbors. The Brethren were not the only settlers on the Run, but there were also Mennonites. While there was much in common each was a stickler for his or her faith. Love sometimes overlooks the boundaries of sect. So a young Mennonite named Jacob Leckrone came a courting. He did not have far to come as he lived on the adjoining farm to the East. We have an interesting account given us by her great granddaughter, the late Miss Oma Karn. Let us listen to her description of the events as told her by her great grandmother Agnes.

"It seems," said Great-grandmother Agnes, "that Jacob had long desired her. But he was a Mennonite, rather the family were Mennonites. Agnes refused to consider the suit unless he consented to unite—at the time she was not baptized—with her with Mack's Church. Jacob demurred for a while and then capitulated. The day the young couple were baptized, the respective mothers stood side by side on the bank watching the scene. Mrs. Leckrone, naturally saddened over watching a son unite with a denomination not her own, said to Mrs. Mack, 'Agnes thinks she has done something smart, getting Jacob to come over with her. But just wait until they are

OLD LECKRONE HOME near Masontown

married, then it will be Agnes the Mennonite instead of Jacob the Tunker.' The prophecy was never fulfilled, for poor Mrs. Leckrone in her grief and chagrin failed to reckon with the fact that her son was marrying a Mack."

Jacob Leckrone was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, May 16, 1794. He and Agnes Mack were married in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, February 22, 1818.

The young couple settled down not far from the home of her parents. Here their first children were born. The old farm upon which the Leckrones grew up in German Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania is the site of a town known as Leckrone. However none of the descendants bearing the name of Leckrone are now living in the home or in the community of their ancestors. The town or village is approximately two miles by highway from Masontown. The old brick house occupied by Leckrones over one hundred years ago still stands just back of the present Catholic Cemetery between Masontown and Leckrone.

In the course of time there was a desire to change locations. The main reason was for benefit of health, to get away from the Malaria, ague or shakes which they thought came from the low lands hard by the Mill dam and the water courses. They did not know that it was brought about by the lowly, and numerous, mosquito.

A new road was in the process of being built to the West. The first Stage did not come as far as Uniontown until 1818, but the road was not at that date completed to the Ohio River. It may have been about 1832 or 33 that Jacob Mack, Agnes and the most of his family pulled up their roots from the valleys of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and transplanted them in the hills of central Ohio. Just a couple miles or more from the highest spot on the old National Pike, as it was called by many, Jacob and Agnes Leckrone settled. Agnes often spoke of the long trip to Ohio. There were small children, the wagon was loaded with all their worldly goods and it took a long time to travel the some one hundred and fifty miles to their new home. The trip was by no means a pleasure trip. Jacob Mack had settled in the same community on a neighboring farm. Hard by was her brother John Mack.

The road turned off to the south approximately a mile west of Brownsville, Ohio which led to the Leckrone place. Here they lived and prospered. Here they built that which was a novelty, a bank barn. This was of the German type of architecture and the first of that design to be built in this section of Ohio. Their home was the stopping place of the early pioneer Dunker preachers who came to Ohio. Services, when they overflowed the house, were held in the commodious barn. Love Feasts were held in the barn. Agnes' brother, Jacob, an Elder in the Dunker Church and who took over the old Mill, when her father moved to Ohio was a visitor from time to time. He was often accompanied by Elder James Quinter. The late Miss Oma Karn when she lived in Covington, Ohio, showed the writer a green, blown glass jug-shaped bottle, which was used by Elders Quinter and Mack in the Communion services held on the Leckrone farm. The jug was used in the passing of the wine.

The old Leckrone farm near Brownsville, Ohio, was just three or four miles from the boyhood home of the Author. From time to time trips would be made along the highway, dirt road of course, by the farm. The house had long been abandoned in the Author's boyhood. The old barn which had resounded with the hymns and prayers of Brethren long gone to their eternal home was in a state of sad decay. It was slowly falling down. Briers, elder bushes and other trees and shrubs were slowly reclaiming that which had been hewed from the virgin forest by hard labor. Ground hogs and other denizens of the woods had taken up their dwelling without fear of interruption within and around the confines of the crumbling farm buildings.

The Old National Pike, while not quite in sight because of the hills, was at times certainly within sound; the Stage Coaches and the Conestoga wagons in great numbers passed to and fro from the East to the West, or the reverse. This was the main road across the growing state of Ohio, and naturally to live by or near it was to sense the pulse of the state.

To the union of Jacob and Agnes Mack Leckrone were born seven children. In their old age they moved from near Brownsville, Ohio, to a farm near Ankenytown, Knox County, Ohio. Here they spent their declining days. Jacob passed from the scenes of earth on August 3, 1885, having reached nearly ninety years of age. His companion died July 21, 1889. She had reached the great age of 96 years, 5 months and 26 days. Her last days were spent in darkness as she had lost her eye sight. The late Miss Oma Karn, her great grand-daughter who knew her well, gives us a picturesque description of Agnes in her last days. She states, **"My last recollection of her is that of a woman past ninety years of age, erect, stately, yet gracious and winning of manner with a voice as clear as in youth. And she could use her voice in prayer and exhortation! Had the period in which she grew to womanhood offered her the educational advantages of today, she certainly would figure in history equal with our pioneer woman preacher, Sarah Major. The two were very good friends."**

Jacob and Agnes, with three of their children, Anna Hedricks, Sarah, who never married, and Lydia Fidler, are buried in the Owl Creek Cemetery, at the Church of

(Continued on Page 8)

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

A GENERAL-SECRETARY SURVEY

I AM HAPPY to share with the Brethren the experiences growing out of my visits to our Brethren churches which are scattered across the country.

Cheyenne, Wyoming

On my trip to the California Conference in January, I arranged to spend a few days at Cheyenne, Wyoming. Brother Frank Garber, pastor of our church there, met me at the airport and took me to his home, where both he and his wife arranged all things for my comfort and convenience.

The Sunday services and the Monday and Tuesday evening services were well attended. There was an eagerness to learn more about the missionary work of the Brethren Church, and I was glad to show them slides of Nigeria, Lost Creek, and Krypton, as well as several of our mission churches.

One rather striking feature noticeable in the service was the number of people, particularly men, who could offer warm, heart-felt prayers, when called upon by the pastor. It was gratifying also to see several of the men take charge of the music in the service, and I discovered that three or four of them also bring the morning and evening messages at various times.

Brother Garber's health is not as good as it once was, and he and his people are aware of the need for pastoral help some time in the near future. The many new homes that have been built near the church in the last year or so must be reached through visitation, if the church is to fulfill its ministry in the community and to show continuous growth.

California Conference

The California District Conference was held in the Stockton Brethren Church, where the well-planned program was executed splendidly by the moderator, Reverend Virgil Ingraham. The business sessions, which resulted in some concrete and significant action should strengthen both the Conference and the individual churches in this district.

There is a rather strong feeling for the need of more churches in the district. The District Mission Board and the Conference Board of Directors are surveying the newly-developed areas in North Stockton with the hope of beginning a new church there. This is most commendable.

The enthusiastic group at the Stockton Church performed splendidly in entertaining the Conference. This little group moves along in a community where it is difficult to show a large, substantial gain; however, they continue steadfast in their work.

Manteca Brethren Church

This church is the largest of our three California churches and consequently assumes the greatest responsibility in the district. It is well located and has a great potential—especially in view of the numerous young married couples within the membership. Many of these young people are very responsible persons and are proving to be capable leaders, working along with Pastor Gilmer to strengthen the church. There are also older folks and an enthusiastic group of children, all of which add up to a well-balanced church.

The financial program of this church is far above what it was last year. This too is commendable, but we believe it is only a beginning of the great and wonderful things this church can and will accomplish within the next few years.

Several of the Lathrop Church people attended the Conference, and it was good to have fellowship with them once more. Reverend Wesley Platt is pastor of the Lathrop Church now.

THE MAN WHO HUNTS WORDS

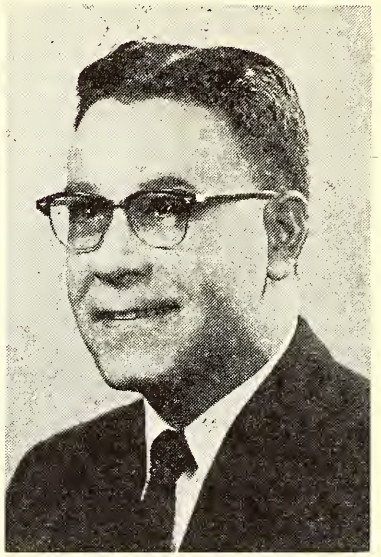
THE MAN WHO TRANSLATES the Bible into African Languages is always asking questions. Here are some of the questions he asks himself: "What did this word mean in the beginning?" or "How can I explain snow in this hot country?" Most of his questions, however, he asks his neighbors. He goes out into the street and into the bush and asks his questions over and over and over again. "What is the word for this?" "What do you say when you are sorry?" "How do you change your words when you are speaking to several people at once?" "What is the difference between this word and that one?" he asks, until his neighbors begin to nickname him "The Fellow who Pesters us with Questions." When he finds a new word, he gleefully writes it down, and is as proud of his catch as a "big game" hunter.

He works hard. Day after day, week after week, he hunts for the right words for the Bible story in a new language. Verse after verse, chapter after chapter is written down and the sheets of paper or the exercise books pile higher and higher. Often he makes mistakes and his neighbors laugh at him. "You mustn't say, 'The captain is over his soldiers,'" they say with a grin. "It sounds to us as though he were sitting on top of them." Then he has to try again. Repeatedly he asks questions and hunts for words until he has a book of the Bible which he thinks his neighbors will understand.

But still he has not finished. He invites a few of his neighbors in to listen, to try it out. They sit around while he reads. Sometimes their eyes light up and they say, "Ah, now we understand. How wonderful to hear the Book of God in our own words." Sometimes they look puzzled. Sometimes they laugh. Then the translator must begin once more asking questions, hunting for words until his neighbors are satisfied. Then the book is finished and is ready to be posted off to the Bible Society to be printed. D. R. A. (With acknowledgments to "For Every Land.")

YOUTH DIRECTOR, REV. CLARENCE STOGSDILL, TENDERS RESIGNATION

AT A RECENT MEETING of the Brethren Youth Board, Youth Director Clarence Stogsdill, presented his resignation. Rev. Stogsdill, who assumed his duties three years ago, has not yet made announcement of his plans for following his termination of his work with Brethren Youth. Rev. Stogsdill, comes from Cerro Gordo, Illinois. Before assuming the position of Brethren Youth Director, he served as Pastor of the Trinity Brethren Church, Canton, Ohio, while a student at Ashland. He is married to the former Doris Roy. The Stogsdills are the parents of two children, Gwen and Roger. Rev. Stogsdill is a member of this year's graduating class of Ashland Theological Seminary. Termination of his duties with Brethren Youth is tentatively set for the month of June.



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"MY PRAYERS AND PERSONAL SUPPORT remain with Brethren Youth," said Rev. Stogsdill, in announcing his resignation, "and it is my sincere hope that the Brethren will stand one hundred percent behind the Organization in accomplishing with Youth that which cannot be done without it.

"My early resignation," continued Rev. Stogsdill, "comes with the hope that this summer sufficient funds will be saved by not paying my salary and travel expenses, so as to enable my successor to begin his first year with Brethren Youth unshackled with financial shortages.

"May God continue to use and prosper Brethren Youth under a new leader."

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Brother Spencer Gentle reports an Easter Sunday School attendance of 510.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. A baptismal service was held the afternoon of April 8th.

Brother V. E. Meyer notes that the largest attendance at Communion in the history of the church was present at the Holy Week Thursday evening service, 200 being present.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates reports their Easter attendances as: Sunday School, 286; Worship, 302; Evening 130.

The monthly fellowship hour was held the evening of March 25th after the regular service. In addition to a play by the B. Y. C. and a singspiration, a "Stump the Preacher" session was held. This was a challenge from the pastor to the congregation to "come prepared to 'fire' questions concerning the Bible, the church, the Christian way of life, etc., at the pastor."

LANARK, ILLINOIS. The Union Good Friday service was held in the Brethren Church.

WATERLOO, IOWA. The Wednesday evening Bible Class, according to the Waterloo bulletin, is averaging 41 in attendance from the start of the class last fall. There have been as many as 56 present at a service.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. The W. M. S. public service was held the evening of April 4th, with Gil Dodds, of Wheaton College, as guest speaker.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFERING
(Easter)

Make checks payable to The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

AGNES MACK LECKRONE

(Continued from Page 5)

the Brethren, Ankenytown, Ohio. When they left the farm they retired to the little village of Ankenytown. Here they were cared for in their last years by their single daughter, Sarah.

David, Jonas and Benjamin were the first born to Jacob and Agnes Mack Leckrone. It is not the intent of this article to go into details regarding the descendants. This has been done in the Author's work, ALEXANDER MACK THE TUNKER AND DESCENDANTS. In this connection we would like to state that through the generosity of the late Miss Oma Karn we possess a New Testament which formerly belonged to Benjamin Leckrone, who was born on Brown's Run, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1821. Benjamin wrote his name across the flyleaf in a bold hand "Benjamin Leckrone, 1839." Benjamin died in Silver Lake, Indiana, October 30, 1905.

Catherine Leckrone, a daughter of Jacob and Agnes was born March 24, 1834, near Brownsville. She was married to Robert Lampton, who lived a few miles away on Flint Ridge. They were married June 28, 1857. They have many descendants in this section of Ohio. He was a descendant of a long line of English Lamptons. They were the parents of twelve children. Robert died March 13, 1916 and is buried by the side of his wife on the old Mack farm in the Mack Cemetery where so many relatives are buried just a few miles to the south west of Brownsville, Ohio.

Jason Mack, the Author's grandfather married Barbara Lampton, a sister of Robert Lampton. They trace their English Lineage back over a thousand years. There is a castle in Northern England in County Durham, which is still owned by the Lamptons, and is known as the Lampton Castle. Friends of the Author have visited this castle and described it to the Author. One who did so was the late Mr. R. E. Barnes who was private secretary to Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin now Governor of Maryland, when he was Mayor of Baltimore. He readily identified the Author's picture of the castle and gave an interesting description of the massive structure which has stood for centuries.

Sarah Leckrone, who bore the Leckrone name until the time of her death, was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1828. Like her forbears, she was a strict Dunker and held strongly to the principles of the faith. In her last days she lived by herself in the humble home in Ankenytown, Ohio. One of her nearest neighbors, and one who aided her in various ways from time to time in her old age was John Guthrie and family.

While the Author was a College student in Ashland, Ohio, there were times when a supply preacher was needed at the Ankenytown Brethren Church, and it was the privilege of the Author to go down. Most College boys were possessed with a good appetite, and mother Guthrie was well aware of the fact and knew just what was needed as she was a top notch cook. So they usually cared for the student preachers while in the village. On one trip the youngest member of the family at home Grace, now Mrs. Robert Porte, of Warsaw, Indiana, said, "I will take you over to see Aunt Sarah Leckrone." It was just a short distance through the field, so over we went. However she had been warned not to bring the young preacher over without advance warning. There was a reason. Sarah, as was the custom of many women of her day and age was a smoker of the clay pipe. She did not want to be seen with her pipe going full blast. Her picture was very much desired, as the writer was a photo enthusiast, but she had an aversion to having her picture made. This was handed down from her strict parents, and remained with her to the last. So we have no picture of this octogenarian. There were temptations to snap her picture uninvited, but it was not done.

An interesting story is told of a visit made to Sarah by her little grand niece, two years old, Inez Karn in company with the little child's mother. "To the amazement of all when the little girl for the first time, saw Sarah take out her pipe and start it going, shouted, "'Mokin fire. Wicked! Wicked!" One who accompanied the amazed tot said that her mother almost fainted and that "Aunt Sarah acknowledged the justice of the accusation and the nastiness of the habit, yet it seemed it held such an obsession she could not break it."

In Sarah Leckrone's young womanhood she was a woman of striking beauty. In her old age when the Author met her she was somewhat stooped, but traces of the beauty of another day were readily discernible upon the face of the rather small old lady. She joined her Ancestors in 1914, having reached the age of 86 years. She was laid to rest by the side of her parents, in the Owl Creek Cemetery near by the Church of the Brethren, at Ankenytown.

The writer enjoyed a visit to the late Miss Oma Karn while she lived in Covington, Ohio. She was a historian and a successful author in her own right. Strong in the faith of her fathers, a great grand daughter of Agnes Mack Leckrone, she treasured the various books and articles of interest used by her illustrious ancestors. She shared them with the writer. She was willing to aid in any way in the producing of that which would place upon record the deeds of those long passed from the scene. There she brought out mementoes of other days. A cup and saucer which was used by William and Agnes Gantz Mack brought serious thoughts of these worthies of other days. William was the son of Alexander Mack, Jr., and the grandfather of Agnes. These and other collections made the years roll away and took the visitors back to the early days of our Church. Her letters, received up until the time of her death, were unique, and the fine humor running through them was an inspiration. Her girlhood desire had been to be a teacher, but when fourteen years of age, an illness affected her hearing which forced her to change her plans. Therefore her pen, and later her typewriter became her working equipment. She had been the author of numerous stories appearing over the years in the Church of the Brethren Literature. She was the author of a book. MILLIE AND MEIKWEI, a story for children, which was a very popular production. The original issue was soon exhausted and many others were printed.

Over a century and a half has passed since Agnes Mack was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Years have fallen from the hands of the Creator and piled up

like grains of sand. The stern teachings of her father, and the example of her mother was her inner guide all her life. Those things of the Word she received were in turn imparted to others. Wherever her steps led her, whatever her baggage contained, there always remained room for the main book in the Tunker household, the well worn Bible. This they believed, this they practiced, this they defended, even to the point of being termed contentious. Surely the Brethren have a rich heritage. Wherever it has been given a chance, it has justified the trust placed in it. Had Agnes Mack Leckrone been of a less determined type, wishy-washy as many are found in this modern age, careless of her faith, the history of this courageous woman would be a far less pleasant matter to record.

The Macks and their descendants knew what they believed, they stood by it, as the writer well remembers in the testimony of those within his knowledge. Agnes Mack Leckrone was a sister of John Mack, the great grandfather of the writer. While there may be few who have ever heard of the subject of this article, our churches which call themselves Brethren and look to Alexander Mack as the Founder or Organizer, are stronger and better because she lived.

St. James, Maryland.

ANKENYTOWN, OHIO, CEMETERY

THE SANDS OF TIME

The sands of time are slipping, slipping—without haste, and without delay; but measured by God's clock of eternity, with what amazing rapidity!

The all-wise God exhorts us to act now—to redeem or buy up the time. How wise to learn the value of these flying moments before they have escaped us forever!

It is said that the time of a good student during his schooldays should be valued at no less than thirty dollars a day; so greatly are his wage-earning capacities increased for life. What estimate, then, should we place upon a moment, the tiniest fragment of time, in view of the eternity for which we are being educated?

The dying Duke of Buckingham shrieked in his last moments, "What a prodigal I have been of the most valuable of all possessions—time! I have squandered it away with a persuasion that it was lasting; and now, when a few days would be worth a hecatomb of worlds, I cannot flatter myself with a prospect of half a dozen hours."

Project yourself in thought far out, say, a million years into eternity—and from that vantage point look back on the little handbreadth of time which constitutes your earthly probation. And diligently consider your latter end NOW as you will wish you had then.—A. R. Palmer.

A GLORIOUS TASK

"He built a house, time laid it in the dust;
He wrote a book, its title now forgot;
He ruled a city, but its name is not
On any tablet graven, or where rust
Can gather from disuse, or marble bust;
He took a child from out the wretched cot,
Who on the State dishonor might have brought,
And reared him to the Christian's hope and trust.
The boy to manhood grown, became a light
To many souls, preached for human need
The wondrous love of the Omnipotent.
The work has multiplied like stars at night
When darkness deepens; every noble deed
Lasts longer than a granite monument."

STOP

James Green

Sixty miles an hour! That's a mile a minute! Eighty-eight feet per second! And he was going only fifteen miles per hour when the old lady stepped out from behind another car. The tires slid just six feet by actual police measurement. But the old lady was dead! He could not stop in time!

Stop!

The car was new! Husband and wife together on a treacherous highway. Smooth and clean—except for an occasional icy spot. Spring had not yet made a thorough job of removing winter's telltales.

Half way up the hill a truck was slowly moving. But the new car could easily pass, with little or no trouble. The driver of the car approaching from the other direction did not know these thoughts, nor could the first driver have known the top half of the hill was icy.

A wrecked car—a double funeral—two orphaned children—no—he could not stop in time!

Stop!

A bus was chartered to take a class of school children on a tour of inspection through the brick plant. Greatly interested they were, to watch the crushers—the mixers—the kilns. A new road back home must cross the main line of the railroad. The streamliner, streaking along was hidden by massive walls of bricks. The siren whistle was not heard and out on the tracks drove the bus. A sickening crash, a few muffled groans amidst the shrieks of fear and pain and almost a score of children gone—they could not stop in time.

Shall we proceed? But why?

Stop!

At the maddening speed of sixty seconds per minute—sixty minutes per hour—twenty-four hours per day—on and on into years—goes the rushing crowd of men—women—boys and girls.

An endless procession. Here one drops out—another joins—the parade has been going on for upwards of six thousand years. No bands necessary to keep up the tempo. Year after year the speed—the momentum picks up. Across the parade ground or highway occasionally goes one, two, a group, which, because of some unusual achievement or accomplishment, attracts more than ordinary attention; here today, gone tomorrow.

But each one must stop! Will you stop in time?

If death ended all—if there were no hereafter, none would need be exercised in this regard. But when God breathed into man's nostrils he became a "living soul."

The tremendous import of this great fact may be more fully understood by the truth thus expressed "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27).

It is incumbent that each one stop, for sins must be accounted for, either here or hereafter. Sin is universal. Sin's penalty is death. To die in one's sin means that whither Christ is, ye cannot go (John 8:21).

Only on earth can sins be forgiven (Mark 2:10).

To miss this forgiveness—to neglect so great salvation is "not to stop in time." So much did God love you, that He gave His Son: so much did Christ love you that He gave Himself.

Stop, O sinner, stop and think;
Before you further go.
Before you sport upon the brink
Of everlasting woe.

All your sins will round you crowd:
Sins of dark and crimson dye.
Each for vengeance cry aloud
And what will you reply?

So stop—for "Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2).

—Faithful Words.

CHRISTIANITY

Wilberforce, the great English preacher, said that Christianity could be condensed into four words: Admit, Submit, Commit, and Transmit. Let us use these four words in one sentence, expressing a great truth. When a man is ready to **admit** Jesus Christ into his life, and then **submit** himself to the will of Christ, **commit** his way unto the Lord, and **transmit** his knowledge and the spirit of Christ which he possesses, to others, he puts himself in the position to be of the largest possible service to God and humanity.—Sel.

ELDER HARRIE C. FUNDERBURG

REV. HARRIE C. FUNDERBURG passed from this life March 30, 1956 to be with his Lord after a lingering illness of 17 weeks. He was 91 years of age, and a life long member of the Brethren Church. He lived in New Carlisle, Ohio for the past 27 years, but kept his membership in the Hillcrest Brethren Church of Dayton, Ohio. His service as a minister was chiefly as an evangelist and supply pastor in many places throughout Ohio. He was a member of the National Ministerium of the Brethren Church. He is survived by a daughter, Fairy Goodrich of New Carlisle; a sister in Springfield, Ohio; two brothers both of New Carlisle; two grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. His wife preceded him in death March 17, 1953. Services were held from the Church of the Brethren in New Carlisle by his pastor, the undersigned, assisted by Rev. Chester Harley, pastor of the church.

Percy C. Miller.

LIVENGOOD. Mrs. John (Cora Jane) Livengood, born Oct. 15, 1881, in Somerset Co., Penna., died Mar. 26, 1956. Very active in church when her health permitted. Taught S. S. Class for more than 25 years. Active in the W. M. S. Survived by her husband, John, who is the son of the late Z. T. Livengood. Z. T. Livengood was the first pastor of the Bethlehem Brethren Church which later formed the nucleus for the Lanark Brethren Church. The writer has many times enjoyed visiting this elderly couple to hear interesting historical incidents of the formation of the Lanark Brethren Church. Committal service conducted on March 28; burial, Lanark Cemetery.

GAUL. Charles Clinton Gaul died Mar. 27, 1956, following a lingering illness. Born June 25, 1875. Services held in the Lanark Brethren Church of which he was a member, on Mar. 29th. Survived by his wife, Orpha, a son, and a brother. "Charlie," as we knew him, was an active attendant and worker until recent months when his health failed.

H. Francis Berkshire, Pastor.

* * *

YOUNT. Mrs. Helen G. Yount passed away March 20, 1956 to be with her Lord after a lingering illness in the hospital of 14 weeks. Her spirit during the illness was of the very highest. Her faith never wavered. She was a great inspiration to all who knew her. All who knew her learned to love her. She truly lived a life of daily victory. She really rounded off a successful life. She was ever a devoted Christian woman. Her smiles, her courage, her faith, her love, her achievements, her devotion to home, family, church, all her attainments are used to ascertain her proper place on the other shore. She meant so much to the church. The church meant so much to her. We do not believe that even now her light is extinguished. She is in heaven ready to greet us. Our loss is her gain and heaven's gain. She is sadly missed by all who knew her. She was a member of the Hillcrest Brethren Church of Dayton, Ohio; being a member of the Brethren Church for 45 years. She was a Deaconness in the church for the past 12 years. She is survived by her husband, W. Ray Yount, the architect for several of our buildings on the Ashland campus. She is also survived by three sisters. The service was held in the Hillcrest Brethren Church by her pastor, the undersigned. Her body lay in state at the church from 11:00 A. M. until time of service at 2:00 P. M. on the day of the service. She was laid to rest in the Englewood, Ohio, Cemetery.

Percy C. Miller.

* * *

TRAMMEL. Mrs. Ida Trammel, 70, departed this life December 6, 1955. Had been in failing health about three years. Member of the Brethren Church for many years. Surviving are her husband, a daughter, 2 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and a brother. Funeral services were conducted by the pastor.

SUNDAY. Mrs. Emma Sunday, 65, passed away at her home March 4, 1956. Had been ill for several months. Member of the Brethren Church. Survived by 10 children, 13 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, 3 brothers, and 3 sisters. Funeral services conducted by the pastor.

RYAN. Mrs. Belle Ryan, 93, passed away February 2, 1956. Member of the Methodist Church, but had been active in the Brethren Church for many years. Funeral services by the undersigned.

Edwin Puterbaugh, Pastor.

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

March 14th to April 4, 1956

Previous total	$4,584.62
Masontown Brethren, Masontown, Pa.	107.35
Highland Brethren, Marianna, Pa.	11.75
Hillcrest Brethren, Dayton, Ohio	100.00
Lanark Brethren, Lanark, Ill.	70.85
Goshen Brethren, Goshen, Ind. additional	146.38
Mr. & Mrs. Garber Wright, Andrews, Indiana	2.00
Louisville Brethren, Louisville, Ohio additional	31.36
Pleasant Hill Brethren, Pleasant Hill, O. add.	15.21
Loree Brethren, Loree, Ind.	50.00
Total offerings to April 4, 1956	$5,119.52

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"THERE'S A HELL TO SHUN"

CARELESS CHURCH MEMBERS who engage in sinful modes of living do not seem to realize that they are facing ETERNAL SEPARATION from God (1 Peter 4:17, 18). Many fashionable and respectable sinners expect to be saved (Matt. 7:21-23). But the preacher's solemn duty is to preach sound doctrine (Titus 2:1). He is duty bound to his God and to the people to give them the message they need, regardless of how they feel about it (Isaiah 58:1). If he speaks with uncertainty he contributes to their spiritual delinquency (1 Cor. 14:8). Therefore, the Apostle Paul was a judgment preacher (2 Cor. 5:11). Men who really believe in Hell seek a Savior.

The devil has blinded the minds of many on this subject (2 Cor. 4:4). The teacher of false doctrine might be sincere but he could not be born again (1 Cor. 2:14). The original doctrine of Hell in the Bible still obtains in spite of the Jehovah (false) Witnesses' translation of the Bible (1 Peter 1:25). Those who scoffed at God's Word in Noah's day were all destroyed (Gen. 7:22). Those who scoffed at the pleading of Lot were destroyed (Gen. 19:14, 24, 25). Never be misled by mockery; believe God in His Word (Rom. 3:2). The scoffing and laughter of Belshazzar's party did not prevent the fulfillment of the handwriting on the wall (Dan. 5:30).

"How do you know there is a Hell?" God's Word says so. Of the 162 texts of the New Testament that speak of the sinner's doom, over 70 were uttered by Christ Himself. Could language be any stronger than the Bible texts on Hell? Here are just a few such texts—Psalm 9:17; 11:6; Deut. 32:22; Isaiah 1:28; 33:14; 66:15, 24; Matt. 3:12; 7:13; 10:28; 13:50; Luke 13:27; Mark 9:43, 44; 2 Thess. 1:8; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 7; Luke 16:23, 24; Rev. 14:11; 19:20; 20:15; 21:8. If there is no judgment and no Hell, why did Jesus come down from Heaven to earth to become our Way of escape (John 5:40)? If anyone is unwilling to part from his sin he will have to go to the place where sin will take him (Matt. 25:41; Isa. 5:14).

Contrary to popular opinion, the devil is not the ruler of Hell, but will eventually be cast into the place (Rev. 20:10). Hell is a consequence of sin (Gal. 6:7, 8). Sin has wages (Rom. 6:23). God does not send souls to Hell (2 Peter 3:9). If the wicked are annihilated then they would all be judged EXACTLY ALIKE. But the Bible teaches degrees of punishment (Rev. 20:13; Luke 12:47, 48). The first death cuts off further chance for the sinner to repent (Eccles. 11:3). The second death is a living death (Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8). Hell is a place of unsatisfied desires (Luke 16:24). Hell is a place of ungodly associates (Rev. 21:8). It is a place of no hope (Matt. 25:46). It is a place of intense suffering (Luke 16:23, 24, 25, 28). In Hell "their worm dieth not" (Mark 9:48; Isaiah 66:24). It is a place of outer darkness (Matt. 8:12; 22:13; 25:30). It is a place of unpleasant memory (Luke 16:25).

God has done all He can to head off the sinner from his Hell-bent way (John 3:16). Jesus came and died to save him (Luke 19:10). The sinner is condemned because he wishes to continue a sinner (John 5:40; 3:18). Any sinner, regardless of how sinful he is, may be saved if he will (1 John 1:7; 6:37). The Devil is our tempter (James 1:13), but God has provided us a way of escape (1 Cor. 10:13; 15:57; Romans 8:37; Jude 24).

Truly, "there is a Heaven to gain, and a Hell to shun." Christian, teach the sinner to shun the place where he will be

"Dying eternally yet never dying,
Living forever and forever crying,
Banished from God and loved ones and light
Suffering the tortures of Hell's darkest night."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for April 22, 1956

THE CHURCH ENDURES PERSECUTION

Lesson: Acts 6:8-10; 7:51-60

THE CHRISTIAN should expect Suffering and Persecution as a result of his stand for Jesus Christ. He should not, therefore, be surprised when they come his way. Christ, before leaving His disciples, told them: "Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his Lord. If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you" (John 15:20).

In spite of this warning, Christians shun any form of persecution. They deny their Saviour time and time again in order to escape it. Is it because they are ashamed of the Master?

"Jesus, and shall it ever be,
A mortal man ashamed of Thee?
Ashamed of Thee, whom angels praise,
Whose glories shine thro' endless days?

Ashamed of Jesus! that dear Friend
On whom my hopes of heav'n depend!
No; when I blush, be this my shame,
That I no more revere His name.

Ashamed of Jesus! yes, I may,
When I've no guilt to wash away;
No tear to wipe, no good to crave,
No fears to quell, no soul to save."

It can never be said that the early disciples, after the Day of Pentecost, were ashamed of the Master, nor fearful of suffering persecution for His sake! Stephen, the first Christian martyr, is a good example of this very fact.

The man Stephen is introduced to us in Acts 6:5, where he is described as "a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost." In verse 8, he is said to have been a man "full of faith and power"; and, therefore, he "did great wonders and miracles among the people."

Why the absence of spiritual power in our midst today? Why the impotency of the Church of the Living God? Commenting upon the secret of power in the early Church, Dr. R. H. Glover suggests that separation from the world was in part responsible. "The separation from the world was of no mere monkish kind, but consisted in a real detachment from the world, and as real an attachment to Christ. On the one hand, those early Christians had undergone so radical a change that the world and its attractions had been taken out of their hearts, while new interests, ambitions, and hopes had taken their place. On the other hand, the world had no longer any use for them, but accorded them ostracism and persecution."

As a result of Stephen's forthright testimony among the Jews, he was arrested and taken before the council. Given the opportunity to speak, he boldly charged them with resisting the truth, and putting Jesus Christ to death!

"When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart (sawned through), and they gnashed on him with their teeth."

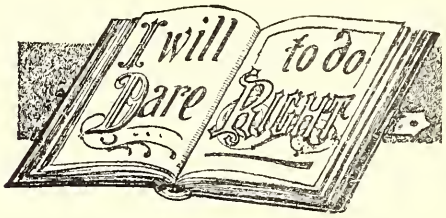
Following this, they "cast him out of the city, and stoned him."

Stephen experienced the wrath of men, who, having heard the truth, refused to yield to it. He was willing "in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake" (Phil. 1:29).

L. M. Lowell relates the following story:

"A young Hindu of high caste refused to accept Christ because he knew his father would cast him out. Finally, he did become a Christian, and was disowned by his father. He had been a law student; now his career was ended. Yet, he appeared at a Christian mission and asked for baptism, saying, 'Christ is worth all I may have to suffer—and more.' "

God grant that each one of us may ever say the same!



The Value of the Budget System

THIS ARTICLE is being written, not for any self-glory, but for the glory of the Lord and an encouragement to any Church thinking about the Budget System. It is also written with the hope that other churches, using the budget system, might write, giving their reactions to its use.

Since the Louisville Budget has been adopted the offerings have gradually increased. Here is an example for the past year, ending April 1st, for gifts to the Benevolent Board. Since the benevolent side of the offering is budgeted, there is an increase in all the other special offerings.

April, May, June	$29.40
July, August, September	34.20
October, November, December	37.80
January, February, March	47.04

In addition to the budget, the envelopes for the special offerings are placed in the Church pew racks, and an announcement is made in the bulletin that those who have an extra tithe or gift to make, or those who do not share in the benevolent side of the envelopes, should make their gift during the month the special offerings are lifted.

This year, the Benevolent gifts amounted to $282.50. This makes a total since April 1, 1955, of $430.94. This is almost an increase of $100.00 over last year.

This system is so much better than the system where a certain amount is given each year. First, it gives opportunity for a Church to increase their offerings if conditions make it possible. Second, folks may give for a certain cause to their liking, above the budget.

Twenty-four families shared in the $282.50 gift and had the privilege of designating whether it should be given toward the Brethren's Home, or the Minister's Fund. Of these 24, half do not use the benevolent side of the envelope regularly. The other half use it every Sunday. But they wanted to give an additional gift for the special need in the Board's work. They know the benevolent side of their envelope is budgeted according to an agreed percentage by the Church. But the special envelopes give them opportunity to give according to the needs of the Boards.

There has been a like increase in all the other offerings.

L. V. King,
Moderator of General Conference.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

A MODERN NEED: SOUL WINNERS

DO YOU GROAN WITHIN, down deep, somewhere that you can't explain for some strange reason? If you are modern in your thinking and believe in cause and effect you must believe that there is a reason for this mysterious emptiness and strange feeling of unhappiness. Probably the reason is very simple, and when I tell you you will rebell at the thought and think up a hundred things that will combat the idea: YOU AREN'T THE SOUL-WINNER GOD WANTS YOU TO BE! His Spirit is bearing witness to your spirit. YOU are His child, but you haven't been faithful in bringing others to Him.

THE MAGIC OF SOUL-WINNING

Did you ever see an unhappy soul-winner? One who is constantly on the alert for means of leading someone else to Christ? "All right, Brother," you say, "now you're going to ask us to be like **them.**" **They** believe in going around offending people and asking them if they are saved, and insulting their intelligence, but **we** don't go for that. No, we don't, sorry to say. And that is the reason our spirits are like dry, tasteless pulp. We don't want to **be like them.** Whoever **they** are. But we aren't soul-winners and we won't be until we admit that we aren't. If we want to be lively, spirited Christians we are going to have to bring souls to Christ. The disciples did it, and all others who have been the salt of the earth were busy bringing souls to Christ.

I am not asking you to be like **them.** Maybe I don't agree with **their** methods either (and please believe me, I'm only using the phrase to show you how we make excuse, not to point to or at any particular group), but **how** you win others to Christ has little to do with the **fact** of either winning them or letting them go without Christ. Let us take inventory. As a Church now for several years we have had almost no noticeable increase. The reason: WE ARE NOT SOUL-WINNERS. And the way to **become** soul-winners is to begin right there.

YOUTH AS SOUL-WINNERS

This is the last word in Christianity. It must be taught from the first.

Who can be a soul-winner?

Only one answer—HE THAT DESIRES TO BE. The spirit of Christian joy and cheer must permeate his personality to the overflowing. If it does not, then there is a reason for this too. He must again commit himself to the Lord in vigilant prayer and regular Bible reading until the Holy Spirit takes control of his life. Then and then only will others be persuaded that Christianity has something he doesn't have—and needs.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS

Christians. There is no other requirement mentioned anywhere that I know of. The very act of talking to someone about the Lord will transform the weak Christian into an angel from God. People like to meet Christians who are in many ways like themselves. If the Christian has a fault or weakness the best thing for him to do is confess it and prove that he is attempting to do something about it.

Then, too, talking to others about the Lord is a good way to have one's weaknesses pointed up to himself. He will soon learn that there are some things that a soul-winner must shun in his own life if he is to win others to his Lord. It is a good way for him to answer the question that keeps cropping up among Christians: "Can I do **this** and be a Christian?" Let him try winning some one else to Christ—REALLY—not just get up before some group and keep saying "We must do this," and "we must believe that." Either he will have to **become the** Christian Jesus intended that he should be, or he will soon learn what a disgusting thing it is merely to be a **talking** Christian.

PUT YOUR FAITH TO THE TEST

If there is anything that will prove your faith and its value it is witnessing for Christ. Witnessing will weld the weak points in your faith and strengthen you against future foibles and lurking temptations. In this way the pathway is paved to a stronger and higher type of faith.

Secondly, witnessing puts the Lord himself to the test of proving Himself in your life. "Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord" (Malachi 3:10). Like Joshua standing upon his feet after the death of Moses, and preparing to cross the River Jordan and prove the Lord at Jericho, experiences in witnessing will give something to lean heavily on in moments of discouragement and times of doubt.

Let us prove ourselves and the Lord in our church. Soul-winning comes first and last for **all** Christians. Let's be on the move for the Lord! How long has it been since you last attempted to win someone for Christ?

EVERYONE NEEDS TO SHARE IN MISSIONS
now and throughout the year
EASTER FOREIGN MISSION OFFERING
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News From Our Churches

NEWS FROM HUNTINGTON, INDIANA

Time flies so rapidly that it seems hardly possible that seven months have slipped by since we arrived in Huntington. The laymen of the church moved our belongings from Morrill, Kansas, and helped us wonderfully in getting settled.

Early in November, we were given a surprise reception and food shower. Besides the many gifts of food, we received also a lovely floor lamp.

Again at Christmas, we received a number of personal gifts, baskets of food from the Children's Department and Church, and a generous cash gift from the Laymen's Organization.

The following organizations, Laymen, two Sisterhoods, two Woman's Missionary Societies, Ladies' Aid, Junior Brotherhood, and the Brethren Youth Crusaders, are all very active.

The attendance has been steadily increasing. The most significant increase has been seen at the morning services, with the climax coming on Easter Sunday. The Sunrise Service, sponsored by the Brethren Youth Crusaders, was attended by 65 persons. Following this service the Laymen served breakfast to 100. One hundred forty-nine attended Sunday School, and 165 were present for the worship service. During the Sunday School hour a boy from the Children's Department accepted Christ as his Savior. Several others have expressed their desire to unite with the church. These will be baptized and received into the church before spring Communion, near the end of April. At the worship service two babies were dedicated to the Lord.

On the first Sunday of each month I speak to the Children's Department at the Sunday School hour. On the third Sunday morning of each month the worship service is primarily a Youth Service, and the evening service is conducted by the young people.

Recently a Junior Choir and a Youth Choir were organized, under the leadership of Miss Carol Steele, a student at Huntington College.

We feel God has truly been with us. We believe the Lord has greater blessings in store for us as we work harmoniously together.

Edwin Puterbaugh, Pastor.

FAIR HAVEN BRETHREN CHURCH

The Fair Haven Brethren Church observed the Easter Season, 1956, with four special services during Holy Week. Rev. Charles Munson spoke Wednesday and Thursday evenings upon the themes, "The Cross Solves the Problem of Sin" and "Eating, Serving, Dying and Living," respectively. These clear, direct and inspirational messages, which stressed the importance of our remembering Christ's death and resurrection, were good preparation for the forty-four believers who observed Holy Communion on Friday night. Easter Sunday began with a one-half hour period of meditation at 9:00 A. M. in which the young people brought special music, scripture and poetry and the pastor presented an object lesson in keeping with Resurrection Day. The Sunday School and Church Worship services were attended by over fifty worshippers in bringing the week to a close.

Phil Lersch, pastor.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

BEAUTY

TRAVELING ON A PLANE from the South recently, I saw a picture I shall never forget. It reminded me of the artist Turner's paintings of his brilliant seascapes. We were flying above white, fleecy clouds when the last rays of the setting sun cast an iridiscent glow over their linings, producing the colors of a huge rainbow. How beautiful and wondrous are the works of God!

A garbage man driving down the highway was singing lustily. He had found in his collection a withered red rose and had placed it on his windshield. It made him happy all day.

A teacher in a school of underprivileged children asked them to look for something beautiful in their lives that day. She knew how much she was asking. At the time of reporting, one little girl said, "The sun shining on our baby's hair is the beautifulest thing I ever saw." Another child said, "I saw a bird drinking water in our gutter. He had on a dark suit and a white collar around his neck. He was so beautiful!"

There is beauty all around us, but maybe we need a little bit of heaven within us to see it.

Beauty is that quality of any object of sense or thought whereby it excites an admiring pleasure. A person may never reach a position where he can know what is absolutely right and wrong, but he may be constantly approaching nearer such a knowledge, for aesthetic sensibilities are capable of development.

If we were not interested in beauty, if it were of no concern to our happiness whether things are beautiful or not, we should manifest the total absence of the aesthetic faculty. A beauty not perceived is a pleasure not felt. Beauty is pleasure regarded as the quality of a thing. There is no effect of form which an effect of material could not enhance. The Parthenon not in marble, the king's crown not in gold, and the stars not of fire would be feeble and prosaic things. You can not live in the intimacy of your garden this Spring without being drawn closer to the god of nature.

I think we can constantly grow and make our lives real masterpieces, for the finest of the fine arts is the fine art of living.

Mrs. J. Allen Miller,
Ashland, Ohio.

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By Anderson and Carlson. For leaders in junior age groups. Program suggestions that are effective and workable. Paper, 60¢

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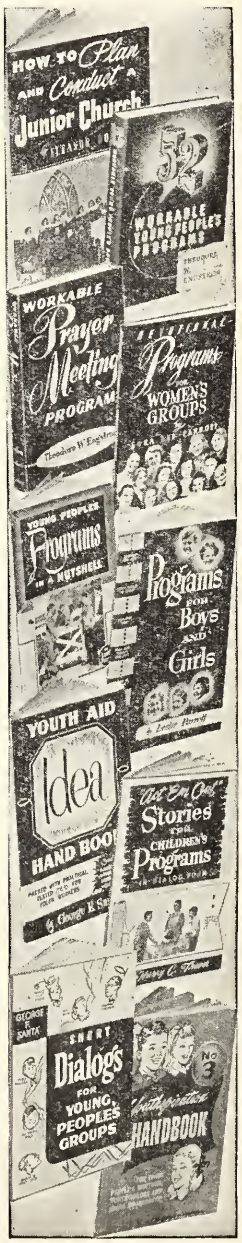

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

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MANTECA, CALIFORNIA BRETHREN CHURCH CHOIR

Front row: Mrs. Roger Stewart, pianist; Mrs. Roland Logan, Mrs. Howard Crom, Mrs. C. Y. Gilmer, Mrs. William Alexander, Mrs. Donald Huse, Mrs. Sidney Gall, directress; Mrs. Robert Larson, Mrs. Romeo Bianchi; Mrs. Donald Harnden, Mrs. Joseph Whisman, assistant pianist; Rev. C. Y. Gilmer, pastor.

Second row: Mrs. Howard Saabye, Howard Crom, Stanley Hagstrom, Donald Harnden, Howard Saabye, Julion Hallett, Daryl Stewart, Sidney Gall, Roger Stewart, Mrs. Stanley Hagstrom. (Absent, Mrs. Merle Johnson).

(See story on Page Ten)

VOL. LXXVIII April 21, 1956 No. 16

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

MASONTOWN, PENNA. The Masontown Church was the scheduled host to the District No. 5 Sunday School Rally held on April 16th.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Ordination services for Mr. and Mrs. Hays Stahl, as deacon and deaconess of the Valley Church were held on April 1st.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Three were received into membership of the church on April 1st, one by baptism, and two by letter.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Eighteen were baptized the evening of April 8th. These were scheduled to be received into the church on April 15th.

GRATIS, OHIO. Brother Myron Dodds reports an attendance of 160 in Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Brother Dodds reports the average monthly increase in attendance in Sunday School for the first three months of 1956 over 1955 as follows: Jan.—14; Feb.—33½; Mar.—31. This is an average gain of 25½ each Sunday.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Six were baptized and received into the church the evening of April 1st.

Dennis and Claire Snell, Missionaries to Mexico, spoke in the services of the New Lebanon Church on April 8th.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. The Father and Son Banquet will be held on April 28th, with Coach Bob Brownson, of Ashland College, as speaker.

Dean Delbert B. Flora, of Ashland Seminary, will speak in the Canton Church on April 29th, and will show pictures of his visit to the Holy Land.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Redecoration of the sanctuary was done during the early part of April.

BRYAN, OHIO. Brother Alvin H. Grumbling reports Easter attendances as: Sunrise, 60; S. S., 290; Worship, 340; Evening, 138.

FLORA, INDIANA. Brother C. A. Stewart has received and has accepted the call of the church to serve another year as pastor. Brother Stewart notes that this makes 6½ years at Flora.

(Continued on Page 7)

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 7)

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKSHOP—April 28th.

The Pennsylvania District Sunday School Board is sponsoring a Sunday School Workshop in the THIRD BRETHREN CHURCH, JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, April 28, 1956.

The morning session, beginning at 10:00 o'clock, will be led by DR. JOSEPH SHULTZ, National Brethren Sunday School Association Field Representative. He will discuss the Youth Department in our Sunday Schools.

The afternoon session, starting at 2:00 o'clock, will be in charge of MRS. MARY LEIDY, and MRS. WADENA WERTZ. Teacher Training will be emphasized in the afternoon.

Noon lunch will be served in the church basement.

WE URGE ANYONE INTERESTED IN SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK TO ATTEND.

Penna. Dist. S. S. Board,
Walter C. Wertz, President.

The Editor's Pulpit

The Brethren Pastor's Conference---1956

AS THESE WORDS are being written, the 1956 Brethren Pastor's Conference has just come to a close. Held at Ashland April 10th through 12th, it proved to be a good Conference, from the standpoint of attendance, fellowship, program and program content. We commend the Committee, Elders Spencer Gentle, Charles Munson, and E. M. Riddle, for the wise forethought, planning and judgment which went into the program. We commend the speakers, leaders and those who participated in the discussions for the wholesomeness of their comments.

This was the third annual Brethren Pastor's Conference. Each one has increased in spirit, interest and value, as each one has built upon the composite results of that which had gone before.

There are advantages to our pastors (and to our churches) in having this annual Pastor's Conference. The Conference has developed because the week of General Conference in August, with its terrificly heavy demands and schedules, just did not give our ministers the needed chance to fellowship as a ministerial group and to deal with specific problems of their work. (The only time, really, during General Conference week when the ministers can get together, is the eight to nine hour in the morning—at the beginning of a heavy day, following an equally heavy Conference day.)

The Brethren Pastor's Conference represents a retreat —a seminar, where our ministers can dwell together, feasting spiritually on the words of God through the lips of those who minister on the programs. It has become a "must"—an eagerly looked-forward-to mountain top experience.

Many were present. Some were not present. Some were not able to be here the full time. Perhaps some did not want to come. Perhaps some couldn't afford to come. Distance prevented some from coming. Sickness kept others from the Conference. Local schedules of some of the ministers prevented their attendance.

It is our opinion, as we have been privileged to attend all three of these Conferences, that every minister should desire to be present, and should make every effort to attend. We also feel that the local church will benefit greatly by having their minister attend future Conferences. If it is a matter of finances on the part of the minister, the local church could well slip the pastor an extra ten or twenty to enable him to attend. If it is a matter of local schedule conflicts which kept ministers away from this valuable and helpful Conference, it is our suggestion, that, inasmuch as possible, local churches arrange to free their pastor from meetings, etc., for the time of future Pastor's Conferences. The Conference is always advertised sufficiently far enough ahead that the local church could arrange to free their pastor, enabling him to attend.

We feel very keening about this, inasmuch as we are convinced that **the one to benefit the most from the Pastor's Conference IS THE LOCAL CHURCH!** Our pastors who have spent these three days in the sessions at Ashland, are returning to the local churches more inspired, lifted up, refreshed spiritually, mentally, and physically. They have dwelt together as Brethren, and are now ready to give you, the lay members of the church the benefit of their inspiration, new plans, new ideas as given to them in the Conference.

It was a good Conference, and as the blessings of heaven continue to flood our soul, we know that your work, and ours will benefit; the church at large will advance, and the glory will go to the Christ, the Lord of glory. W. S. B.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT
ASHLAND COLLEGE ALUMNI DINNER-MEETING
Friday, April 27th — 6:30 P. M. E. S. T.
VINCO BRETHREN FELLOWSHIP HOUSE
Price of meal — $1.35
Guest Speaker from Ashland College
Friends and Prospective A. C. Students also invited. Reservations must be in by Monday, April 23rd. Send to Secretary.
Mrs. Wade Burkhart, Mineral Point, Pa., R. D. 1.

Moderator's Address 1955 Pennsylvania District Conference

Rev. N. V. Leatherman

"An Appreciation of The Brethren Church"

Part I

IT IS THE INTENT of this address to develop an appreciation of the Brethren Church anew. In this of necessity we must refer to the background, as well as the current movements of the church.

One of our pastors a few years ago, calling on one of his families, discovered from his wife that her husband was out in the cornfield. When he asked about the health of her husband, she replied, "Oh, he has been in the background all summer."

Sometimes it would seem all there is to the Brethren Church is background. But that background is both interesting and fundamental to our appreciation of the church.

There are three things particularly we can say of those who founded the church in 1708 and later.

First, they were searchers for Biblical and Christian truth.

Second, they were doers of the Word, and suited their literal interpretation of the Word to their deeds. Thus they came to observe the ordinances.

In the Third place they were a self-sacrificing people: For Christian freedom and for conscience sake. "Count the Cost," was a hymn composed by Alexander Mack, and sung by the Brethren at every baptismal service.

They were a non-political people separating themselves from the state as a worldly institution, which also caused them to take the non-resistance course; that meant much suffering.

Much of their energy was spent in preserving their rediscovered heritage.

But like the early church their missionary efforts were a result more of circumstance than design. They moved to America for self-preservation; and then as Brumbaugh characterized them when they arrived here, "they built for themselves homes, that their homes might keep them."

At first they were a schooled people, interested in learning and teaching. When circumstances of survival dictated that they move to America, many changes took place.

Their distinct and almost fanatical conservatism, adhering to the old order of things, was a change from their original position of freedom to live according to conscience, as guided by the Bible and the Holy Spirit. The order of dress was an accumulative dictatorial order of the church, in contrast to their earlier practices. Their growing resistance against higher education, was a change from their earlier interest in education. They were a people who had one of the first Sunday Schools in this country, if not in the world, and then came to the position where, Annual Meeting after Annual Meeting, they discouraged and even forbade the Sunday School movement. From a very meager type of government in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries they developed an extremely close and centralized government, whose decisions handed down were final. Standing Committee became for them a supreme court, and the exercise of **avoidance** was as tight as excommunication was for the Roman Catholic Church.

These factors caused the church to look almost constantly within, to the neglect of her great missionary opportunities. Evangelism as such, became almost taboo, and in some respects entirely so. Having been raised in a home where mother was a member of the Old Order, or German Baptist Church, I was never once spoken to, and to the best of my knowledge, neither were any of my five sisters or brother, ever spoken to about our souls' eternal salvation, nor about church membership. Yet the Visit, (either deacons or elders), came to visit our

home regularly once each year prior to communion. In the first place, children were never expected to be interested in church membership. However, the heads of their homes were expected to care for this interest as youth came to maturity. But the church provided very little, or a very meager evangelistic appeal.

The energy of the church was spent in maintaining status quo, and very little progress was being made from the middle of the nineteenth century on.

It was a fore-gone conclusion this order of things could not be maintained, in a country where its society was continually changing and growing, geographically, politically, educationally and religiously.

Great revivals were sweeping over the land, wave upon wave; but the stayed order of the church steered its constituency clear from these movements. Consequently denominations like the Methodists, United Brethren, Lutherans, Reforms, Presbyterians, Baptists and others, appealed to the populace of their days and went circles around the Brethren, in their development, even though they were in on the ground floor of this country religiously.

Annual Meeting itself was set up as a resistance movement at first, rather than a conference for constructive thinking, planning and action. It was set up to resist a movement prompted by Count Zinzendorf, a Christian enthusiast, who endeavored to make of one body, all German speaking churches, such as Lutherans, Baptists, Reforms, and Dunkers, as the Brethren were spoken of in those early days. This attitude can be explained when it is considered, that because of these same bodies having become state churches in Germany, after the Peace of Westphalia, and were the main backing of all the persecution the Brethren bore there.

There is something of a sense in which the history of the German Baptists was something of a repetition of the Dark Ages, which was broken by the Renaissance. About the middle of the nineteenth century, there was a slow growing movement to break the shackels of the extreme conservatism of the church. This movement was expressed through publications that began to appeal to the members of the church. Schools for the training of the youth of the church began to be opened. Evangelists began to hold series of protracted meetings in the churches. Sunday Schools were multiplying at an ever increasing rate. New types of appeals were being sent for Standing Committee, and Annual Meeting, decisions. The church was coming to be more and more alerted to greater considerations for promoting the Lord's work.

It was inevitable like in every great movement that mistakes would be made. Yet caution must be inducted here, lest we who pose as judges of the past, discover some day, our own judgment express more prejudice than judgment or justice. But like every movement that confronts the Lord's people, the hour of decision had come, and every member of the church was placed on the judge's seat, to pass sentence first upon his own position, and then upon others.

As a result, there were three bodies shaped from the contentions for the faith, they all sincerely professed.

First, there was the withdrawal of the most conservative element of the day, into their own separate way. This separation resulted in the German Baptist, or Old Order church. This group of Brethren and churches are truly characterized by their strict adherance to the order of the church. That is, the church, through its Annual Meeting, made the rules, for not only the moral living, and the doctrinal teachings; but also for the pattern and cut of the hair, as well as of the dress.

In the second place, there was the exercise of Annual Meeting, at Arnold's Grove, in Indiana, in 1882, in accepting the report of a special committee, to wait upon Elder H. R. Holsinger, which report, so formed when accepted, disfellowshiped this brother from the church. The inevitable movement of sympathizers with this brother, occasioned the formation of the Brethren Church.

Brother Holsinger represented that enthusiastic, if not in some instances, almost a fanatical movement through those years, urging the progressive element of the church to pursue the Lord's work anew.

The third group formed from this upheaval was the large middle ground body that maintained its unity around the church organization. With the two then prevailing extremes having formed their own organizations,

(Continued on Page 8)

NOTICE TO
THE BRETHREN IN AND AROUND PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

THE BRETHREN will hold their 2nd Fellowship meeting with a picnic—Sunday, May 13th, at 5:00 P. M. (Mother's Day). The picnic will be at Tempe City Park at 1st and Mill on the west edge of the city of Tempe.

A group of Tucson Brethren will attend for inspiration and encouragement. All Brethren and friends of that area are cordially invited.

ANY BRETHREN—ANYWHERE—knowing of Brethren in that area are urged to either notify them of this gathering, or write at once to: Rev. Vernon Grisso, 115 N. Bryant Ave., Tucson, Arizona, giving name and address of the same.

Vernon Grisso.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

About DOC, JEAN AND DENNIS—at Waka

March 26, 1956

Dear Secretary and Under Secretary:

According to our record this letter is somewhat overdue, but better late than never. I heard my wife say that she would write; maybe it would be good for us to change jobs, because I've been writing letters and she's been studying Bura. In between sessions of trying to assist both of us, Dennis is playing, tormenting and scaring the other members of our family—yes, we just had an addition.

. . . I'd better explain the addition—Miss Shisler, a teacher here at Waka has a white cat which had two kittens about six or eight weeks ago and she's been trying to find a home for them; so we took them on this week. Dennis and the kittens both give out about three every day and have to take naps (not together though). The kittens are usually in the pantry for naps; they like to sleep on top of the canned goods; the metal on the tins may be cool, but it certainly isn't very soft.

There was a baptism here at Waka on Sunday. About 3 or 10 were baptized. The crowd was so great I couldn't even get a glimpse of the proceedings no matter how far I stretched my neck. The stream is very small and there are lots of trees and bushes along the banks, making it very difficult to see anything. We could sing along with the others though; they sang a verse of "O Happy Day" after each baptism as the persons were entering the water and leaving. Of course it was all in Bura; so we could get only snatches here and there; but we are learning slowly.

We just received notice about things being sent into the country and the request from the headquarters at Garkida is that things being sent are to be marked "unsolicited gift"; otherwise it is necessary to get an import license and write to the shipping agents in Lagos. If any of our friends send anything to us they are supposed to mark it as above indicated to avoid loss and delay . . .

We're all very busy and enjoying our work. Greet any of our friends around A. C. for us. We think of you all often and would like to have a little chat with you, but letters will have to suffice.

In His Service,

Doc, Jean and Dennis.

BISCHOFS' ITINERARY—May

May 1	Cambria County Brethren Christian Endeavor
May 2	Waynesboro
May 3	Bea at 2nd church in Johnstown, Mother and Daughter banquet; Bob at Berlin
May 4-6	Berlin
May 7-8	New Lebanon
May 9, 10	Bryan (tentative)
May 11-13	Elkhart (Bob at Teegarden May 11th.)
May 14-15	Mission Board Meeting—Ashland
May 16	Akron, Ohio
May 18	Ohio District Laymen—Mansfield
May 20	Garber Memorial—Ashland
May 21	Pleasant Hill
May 22	West Alexandria
May 23	Oakville
May 24	Huntington
May 25	College Corner
May 27	Dutchtown, Warsaw and County Line
May 28	Ardmore

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS?

Our foreign mission program is growing; consequently the gifts supporting this work must grow too. GIVE LIBERALLY!

Foreign Mission receipts for March—$668.03.

STEWARDSHIP VERSUS SCHEMES

A LARGE NUMBER OF CHURCHES today are no longer using questionable fund-raising schemes, but have turned to the New Testament for a better way and have found both joy and blessing as a result. Here are two testimonies, indicative of this trend:

General Assembly of Presbyterians urges Evaluation of fund-raising projects!

Neckties, vanilla, dish rags, birthday cards and the like may equal something, but it isn't Christian stewardship.

From time to time ministers across the nation have been receiving letters such as the following:

"There has been a big change in our fund-raising plan for Protestant Churches. It ought to work out to your great advantage . . . "

"With permission, we send to the Church or Society a display of seventy-two different neckties . . . "

The last General Assembly urged each church to examine and evaluate all fund-raising projects with particular reference to their stewardship principles and spiritual values. Those which are not in accord with such spiritual principles and values should be eliminated.

In case you missed the full General Assembly statement, it follows here:

"It is recommended that every church in our denomination and the organizations in every church seek to obtain their financial support through the development

of stewardship, and that sessions be urged to examine and evaluate all fund-raising projects promoted by their churches and organizations with particular reference to their stewardship principles and spiritual values, with view to eliminating those which are not in accord with such spiritual principles and values." . . . from quarterly publication, Department of Stewardship and Promotion, Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

By way of interpretation . . .

As more church leaders acquire methods and techniques of invoking a true stewardship response to the financial claims of Kingdom work, spiritually devitalizing money-raising schemes are being discarded. The Stewardship Department is glad to report significant gains in the number of churches whose members now conduct an annual canvass to enlist a majority of members in support of spiritual goals represented in the local budget.

Protestantism in general is making its stewardship witness clear that "commercialism in the church kills the very lesson we of the church must teach: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." The articles above are samples of the resurgence of faith in the scriptural way of supporting the work of the church; a way that enhances the spiritual life of each contributor, even as "first-day-of-the-week" sharing enlarges congregational giving.

—Harl Russell, Stewardship and Brotherhood Fund Secretary General Brotherhood Board, Elgin, Ill.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

ELKHART, INDIANA. Baptismal services for 12 were held on March 25th. These were received into the church at the same time. Two were received by letter.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Brother J. D. Hamel was the guest speaker at the North Liberty Brethren Easter Sunrise Service.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Baptismal services were conducted on April 1st.

A new tract rack has been placed in the vestibule of the church, a gift of one of the members.

"The Gospel-Aires," Jubilee singers, from Dayton, are scheduled to sing in the Muncie church on April 22nd.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. Baptismal services are scheduled for April 22nd.

WARSAW, INDIANA. Dr. Glenn Clayton, President of Ashland College, is scheduled to speak in the Goshen Church on April 29th.

HOWE, INDIANA, BRIGHTON CHAPEL. Brother Smith F. Rose will bring the Baccalaureate message on April 29th for the Mongo High School service.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Baptismal services were held the afternoon of April 8th.

AKRON, INDIANA. Brother Ralph McFadden reports their Easter attendances as: Worship, 125; S. S., 120; Evening, 52.

Brother McFadden notes that their attendances for the past three months have been "better than before."

OAKVILLE, INDIANA. Brother Arthur H. Tinkel reports that their Sunday School average attendance for the last quarter was 107, an increase of 16 over one year ago. Average church attendance is also higher.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. Brother Vernon D. Grisso reports Easter attendances as follows: S. S., 214; Worship, 220.

March average attendances: S. S., 105 in 1955, and 150 in 1956; Worship, 90 in 1955, and 128 in 1956.

COMING EVENTS

CAMERON, W. VA. Annual Dedication Day Anniversary and Roll Call—**April 22nd, morning and afternoon** —Rev. W. S. Crick, Speaker; also at Quiet Dell, evening; Rev. Cecil Bolton, Jr., Pastor.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT
BRETHREN LAYMEN
SPRING RALLY—APRIL 30, 1956
7:00 P. M. Prevailing Time
JOHNSTOWN 3RD BRETHREN CHURCH
An interesting program is being arranged.
John J. Golby.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH RALLY
MAURERTOWN, VIRGINIA, BRETHREN CHURCH
May 4th — 6:00 P. M. E. S. T.
Banquet—$1.00

PROGRAM MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Dr. Joseph Shultz, Mrs. Shultz at the piano. Stunts, skits. Rev. Klingensmith will tell of Camp Plans for 1956.

Young people from Southeastern District Churches: COME!

Mrs. John F. Locke, Secretary,
Christian Education Committee of the
Southeastern District Conference.

AN APPRECIATION OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH

(Continued from Page 5)

the Church of the Brethren continued to own and control most of the church properties. They were nicknamed the Conservatives because they continued the same type of conservative church government and practices as before. While at the same time they continued to have within their fellowship remnants of the elements of the extremes of conservatism and progressivism, each submitted to the order of the church, and each brought to bear a more dignified and unassuming pressure, to change the order of the church to what it is today. And today this branch of Dunkerism is still much the stronger numerically than the other two bodies, and in fact is in many ways more progressive than our folks who bear the name.

But there is a sense among some of us, that this progressive swing with them was not too discerning between being progressive in methods of accomplishment and being progressive in a more liberal interpretation of the Scriptures. With them the same policy of fellowshipping all, regardless of the liberal, or conservative approach to the Word, still continues.

So today the differences between these two bodies are entirely different from the differences in 1882. These are generalities; but I believe are understood by the Church of the Brethren and Brethren alike.

Relative to the continued relationship of these two bodies, the Brethren are quite unanimous in continuing a friendly and cooperative relationship. But when it comes to merger, the Brethren are not at all agreed. Sometimes it would seem we have placed ourselves in position, by those of our number overzealous for merger, where an apology is due the Church of the Brethren. But time and circumstances do help to modulate misunderstandings and their causes. While this brief explanation is personal, I do think it expresses fairly clearly the mind of the Brethren.

Now to continue what this address purports to be, "An Appreciation of the Brethren Church," let us go back to the beginning of our own church 73 years ago. Relative to this history, we have been entirely too silent and too disinterested.

We had very few churches with which to start. The largest assets of the church were the self-sacrificing pastors, who yielded their lives to the circumstances and occasions at hand. Those who literally went everywhere and preached the Gospel. Wherever there were two or three Brethren and a school-house open to them, there our ministerial fathers went. Generally they started with a series of protracted meetings, sometimes lasting four, five and six weeks, and in certain instances, longer. While these men preached the whole Gospel of salvation, they never neglected their emphasis upon the ordinances of the church. Consequently those who joined these Brethren churches were thoroughly indoctrinated, and knew what made them Brethren.

These Brethren were nick-named Progressive as much in derision, as in fact and deed. But like those of the way, who "Were called Christians first at Antioch," their new nick-name became a revered name, and one they lived by.

However, the name Progressive never referred to any liberalism in theology. They never moved from the fundamentals of the Gospel when they separated from the larger body of the Dunker faith. Rather, their progressiveness was in the field of evangelism, and in education, as well as in a paid ministry, in contrast to the so-called free ministry. Although at first that paid ministry was exceedingly small support. This may help to explain how men like S. H. Bashor, and others of his ambition, yielded to some of the money-making schemes of their day, some of which turned out questionable, and undermined much of their good efforts in promoting the Gospel through the Brethren Church. But steadily the church began to see the necessity of supporting its ministry for full time pastoral services. The record of success in the churches where this support was given, became quite convincing of its necessity, approval and practice.

On the other hand the very lack of support for our pastors in those early days, or in the latter part of the nineteenth century, caused many of those pastors to extend their efforts in protracted meetings, where additional income helped them to raise their families.

This contributing necessity added to that early impetus in the planting of many congregations.

A brief scan of our statistical reports around 1920 revealed that we had only half the number of congregations we had at the turn of the century. Why this great loss? Several things go to explain it.

First, perhaps the invention of the automobile can be used to explain the loss of more of those congregations. This new means of transportation enabling Brethren to travel farther made many of the cross-road churches seemingly unnecessary. I emphasize "seemingly unneces-

FIRST-LOVE IMPACT!

An Indian had a two-dollar bill. It was not in the form in which he wanted that money. He asked a bishop if he had two one-dollar bills, and if so, would he exchange them for the two-dollar bill. The bishop was able to accommodate his friend, and was not averse to doing so. But he was eager to know the reason for the request. In reply to his inquiry the red man said he wanted to give one dollar to Jesus and he wanted his wife to have the other dollar for the same purpose. The bishop suspected that was all the money the two had between them, and on asking he found it was. He was about to remonstrate with them for giving all they had, even to so worthy a cause; but he had not gotten far when he was interrupted by the Indian, who said, "It might be too much for a white man to give, but not for such an Indian, who has heard this year for the first time of the love of Jesus."—Selected.

sary." For other denominations had too, their cross-road churches, who continued to maintain them and many of them to this very day, to the success of their church as a whole. They have served and continue to serve as feeders to the more centralized churches; besides they continue to serve each in their own small way descendants of their founders.

In the second place, a contributing cause for losing many of these small churches is due to the fact that in all of our history, we Brethren never did provide a proper care for them. Although the support for those pastors was small, the number of pastors to support was also small. Since the church took the stand, backing away from a free-ministry, there was no one provided in many instances to keep the services in many of these churches going. As a result, small churches merged all over the Brotherhood to develop congregations large enough to support a pastor for full time service. While this met the need in its way, the church lost very heavily in these mergers. Then too, there was no studied or systematic way in accomplishing these mergers, and many left behind in these cross-road churches, felt and said their church was taken from them, and they never did align themselves with the church farther.

In the third place many of these churches were planted ill-advisedly, in the zeal to plant churches and hold meetings. This naturally reflects upon a lack of an understandable church polity.

Nevertheless, we must acknowledge today, there just would be no Brethren Church, if it had not been for the faithfulness of the Brethren, both laity and elders, in the first 50 years in her history. And if these frank remarks seeking to call to mind a brief picture of the Brethren Church, are at all interpreted to reflect ill upon the importance and the good quality of that earlier movement, then these words would be better, had they never been written. For this address is set to culture an appreciation of the Brethren Church. There are a few things we should never forget.

These early Brethren by the grace of the Lord made the Brethren Church and gave it to succeeding generations. They developed it by yielding to the new circumstances into which they were cast. They moulded a new pattern. They did the best they could and then threw the torch to you and me.

They were men and women progressive in their thinking. They yielded to the methods of their day that got results for the Lord. These Brethren secured Ashland College and Seminary from both physical, financial and spiritual ruin. These Brethren gave us the Brethren Publishing Company and a Brethren literature. These Brethren started the foreign missionary movement in the church. These Brethren developed the S. S. C. E. (Sisters' Society of Christian Endeavor) which has developed into our W. M. S. of today. These Brethren developed Christian Endeavor Societies, that at one time was the greatest appeal to our youth, and led many a young man into the Christian ministry. These Brethren gave the church a supported ministry. These Brethren developed our General as well as our District Conferences. These Brethren developed Sunday Schools wherever they built churches. In fact, the Pennsylvania District Conference is an outgrowth of Sunday School Conventions.

So, before we become too critical and emphasize what they did not do, let us be fair and ask, "What have we built upon their foundation?"

(Continued next week)

SEVEN SHORT RULES FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

1. Never neglect daily private prayer; and when you pray, remember that God is present, and that He hears your prayers. (Heb. 11:6.)

2. Never neglect daily private Bible reading; and when you read, remember that God is speaking to you, and that you are to believe and act upon what He says. I believe that all backsliding begins with neglect of those two rules. (John 5:39.)

3. Never profess to ask God for anything you do not want. Tell Him the truth about yourself however bad it makes you; and ask Him for Christ's sake to forgive you for what you are, and to make you what you ought to be. (John 4:24.)

4. Never let a day pass without trying to do something for Jesus. Every night reflect on what Jesus has done for you, and ask yourself, What have I done for Him today? (Matt. 5:13-16.)

5. If ever you are in doubt as to a thing being right or wrong, go to your room, kneel down and ask God's blessing on it. (Col. 3:17). If you cannot do this it is wrong. (Rom. 14:23.)

6. Never take your Christianity from Christians, or argue that, because such and such a people do so and so, therefore you may. (I Cor. 9:12.) You ask yourself, "How would Christ act in my place?" and strive to follow Him. (John 10:12.)

7. Never believe what you feel if it contradicts God's word. Ask yourself, "Can what I feel be true?" and if both cannot be true, believe God and make your own heart the liar. (Rom. 3:4. I John 5:10, 11.)—Selected.

REPORT FROM MANTECA, CALIFORNIA

(Picture of the Choir on Page One)

ON PALM SUNDAY, March 25, 1956, at 7:30 the First Brethren Church Choir of Manteca, California, presented the cantata, "The Easter Sunrise Song" by Fred B. Holton. On that Sunday the Young People's Choir, directed by Mrs. Merle Johnson, which is the Sunday evening choir and presents a special number on Sunday evenings, gave the morning anthem, "The Palms."

The Manteca Church has a music committee of five members as provided by its constitution which is modeled after the suggested constitution in The Brethren Handbook. This committee organizes the music work of the congregation, chooses the choir directors and pianists, and handles the problems concerning the music of the church.

The choir pictured (page 1) has been very active over a period of years, and contributes much to the morning worship service by furnishing a special number and an anthem each Sunday. The choir plans to give concerts quarterly and to use the offerings to build up an organ fund. The Easter cantata was the first of these concerts.

Since our last report to **The Brethren Evangelist** the Manteca Church has adopted an over-all budget to cover local needs and denominational contributions, which totals $6,782.00. The church auditorium has been replastered, and the plaster and woodwork given a very light tint of green. The W. M. S. has installed maroon velvet drapes for the pulpit platform.

A recent red letter event was Cradle Roll Day, arranged by the superintendent of the cradle roll, Mrs. L. A. Schmeidt; 144 were present at the morning worship hour, and twelve children were dedicated by their parents to the Lord. At the noon hour a dinner was held for the cradle roll families with sixty-one present.

At Easter the Sunday School classes of the children and young people gave a program during the Sunday school hour. 215 were present. At the morning worship hour the missionary committee presented the foreign missionary picture with a world map and pictures of the missionaries and also missionary candidates. Two resurrection anthems were given by the choir. Brother Robert Huse, who is a senior at the Pacific Bible College, Asuza, California, led in devotions. The pastor spoke on the theme: "Christ Lives." 190 were present for this service. The Easter choir cantata is being reported in **The Evangelist** as a separate news item.

Lately the social committee of the church entertained the high school graduates and the teen-agers of our church at a formal banquet. The program consisted of a dramatic reading, a pantomime, and messages by Rev. Bruce Warner and the pastor. The Youth Choir, directed by Mrs. Merle Johnson, plans to give a concert on the evening of Mother's Day.

The Sunday school has adopted the cross and crown pin attendance system. At Christmas the Sunday school raised a gift of $120 for Brethren missionaries' children. The Sunday school is growing and has the problem of finding adequate room. The average attendance for March was 156. The first daily vacation Bible school for the Manteca Church is planned for July 16-29, with Mrs. Joseph Whisman as superintendent. All lines of endeavor appear to be co-ordinating and making progress. "Brethren, pray for us."

—C. Y. Gilmer.

News From Our Churches

REVIVAL AT FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA

The Lord has blessed us wonderfully at Falls City for which we praise His name. We had a revival meeting which really revived the membership of the church and resulted in several decisions for Christ. The singing was exceptionally good with specials at every service. The organo and piano were used together during the services very effectively. The pastor-evangelist used the Saxophone during the meeting. At the request of the Church Board the pastor led his own music so we were evangelist and song leader.

The people responded wonderfully; the attendance was good; there were many outsiders present. We had special nights and various groups made real efforts to be present. The interest aroused was exceptionally fine. Mrs. Bowman gave Scene-O-Felt stories several evenings which were well received.

Each afternoon, Monday through Friday, the Booster Club met in the church basement right after school. These interesting Children's meetings were conducted by Mrs. Bowman assisted by Mrs. Harvey Hinz and Ruby Fine. They were very successful and well attended. There was a contest between the boys and the girls which was won by the boys.

There were 15 decisions. Eight by baptism, 3 by letter and 4 reconsecrations. Two of those baptized came from other denominations, one adult from the Lutheran and one adult from the Methodist church.

There were two decisions for Christ from the Morrill Church. They came over to Falls City Easter Sunday afternoon and were baptized with the eight from Falls City making a total by baptism of 10. Morrill was very faithful in attending the revival. It was a thirty mile round trip yet someone was there every night and the last

Sunday night a delegation of 25 attended. The Falls City church surely appreciates the splendid co-operation of the good folks from Morrill.

We are so happy that the Spirit touched hearts; it was a thrilling experience. We left Easter Sunday night after a wonderful Communion service to hold a two weeks meeting for Rev. Burton at Mulvane, Kansas.

Many people co-operated and worked faithfully to make the meetings a real success. Mrs. Elizabeth Downey at the organo; Virginia Bowman at the piano. Mrs. Howard Grush substituted occasionally and Elnora Fine played for the baptismal service. All in all, the meeting was very helpful to the Falls City church.

J. Milton Bowman.

CARLETON, NEBRASKA

Easter Sunrise Services were held at the church with a nice crowd attending. The pageant, "Garden Miracle," was presented along with devotions and special numbers.

Communion services were held the evening of April 1st, with Rev. Wilbur Thomas helping the pastor in the services.

The W. M. S. held their public Day Service, Sunday morning, April 8th. Mrs. David Sims, guest speaker, gave a very inspiring message on the 23rd Psalm.

C. R. Stogsdill.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA

The Bowmans have been with the Falls City, Nebraska and Morrill, Kansas, churches for the last six months and a lot of work has been accomplished in that time. They had not taken a day off for rest until Christmas, so both churches granted them a week's vacation to spend with Mrs. Bowman's people in Michigan.

We have been doing quite a little reorganization work in our Sunday School, and other departments of the church. Our Mid-Week prayer service has grown from an attendance of 8 to 12, up into the 30s and 40s. We call it the "Hour of Power," and it is truly that. We have a good choir, directed by Harry Hinz, with Mrs. Wayne Downey at the organo.

Our Revival opened March 11th, running through the 18th. Easter Sunday, seven Juniors and two adults were baptized, one a father whose wife and four children already belonged, one mother and three sons; the father awaits baptism. Two of the Juniors from the Morrill church. Three from the Church of the Brethren who had been worshipping with us for several years, came into membership by letter.

During the Sunday School hour, Easter morning, the Easter story was brought in by five scenes by way of the Scene-O-Felt, by Mrs. Bowman, which was very much enjoyed by all.

Rev. Bowman is holding a two weeks meeting at Mulvane, Kansas. Our prayers go with him that he may be blessed in the winning of souls there, as he was at Falls City. Gil Dodds, of Wheaton College was our guest speaker April 4th at the W. M. S. Public Service. We are looking forward to a visit from Rev. and Mrs. H. E. Eppley, a former pastor. He will fill our pulpit April 15th. The message on April 8th was given by Mrs. Bowman.

Mary E. Rieger, Cor. Sec.

ATTENTION

OHIO DISTRICT PASTORS AND CHURCH TREASURERS

Please check to see if your church has paid its apportionment for District Missions. This year is well along and some churches have not paid anything on their apportionments; however, several churches have paid in part and the following churches are paid in full: Bryan, Columbus, Glenford, Louisville, Mansfield, Newark, New Lebanon, Williamstown and Dayton.

Make out all checks to OHIO DISTRICT MISSION BOARD and send to W. Clayton Berkshire, Treasurer, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

CONFERENCE DATES

INDIANA DISTRICT. June 11th through 14th, at Shipshewana Lake, Indiana.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT. June 19th through 21st, at Oak Hill, W. Va.

OHIO DISTRICT. July 12th through 15th, at Linwood Park, Vermillion, Ohio.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT. July 16th through 19th, at Third Brethren, Johnstown, Penna.

The General Conference of the Brethren Church meets in Ashland, Ohio, August 13th through 19th.

A READING Church is an INFORMED Church. Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"FOR THERE ARE CERTAIN MEN CREPT IN UNAWARES . . . " (JUDE 4)

Aunt Mary fell flat for the new pastor Spratt;
  His scholarship surely did win her,
His ethical spiel had a pull and appeal
  For this dear simple, gullible sinner.
Why the Bible had errors! Black Hell with its terrors
  She could see now was nothing but libel.
So with scissors and knife and with anger quite rife
  She proceeded to doctor her Bible.
So Jonah and the whale (?) and the "Genesis tale,"
  The "folklore," the "myth" were extracted.
She cut and she clipped, she erased, tore and snipped,
  As she list to those essays protracted.
But now she must quit and quietly sit
  And gaze at her new pastor lover.
Of her Bible bereft she has nothing left
  But a map, two fly-leaves and a cover.

—P. M. Kadey.

OUR CHRIST was much concerned in His faithfully warning us of false prophets (Matt. 7:13-23). He clearly foretold that there would be MANY false prophets (Matt. 24:11, 24; Mark 13:22). These false teachers were already at work in Paul's day (2 Cor. 11:13-15). Paul upon his leave of the pastorate at Ephesus called the official board together and warned them against grievous wolves seeking to riddle the flock (Acts 20:28-30). Paul had to warn the Galatians against the Judaizers (Gal. 2:4; 1:8, 9). In Paul's faithfulness to Timothy he had to give him warning (2 Tim. 3:5-8).

The Apostle John had to deal with these antichrists (1 John 4:1; 2 John 7). Peter also gives the strongest of warning against them (2 Peter 2:1). Faithful Jude exhorts us against them (Jude 3, 4).

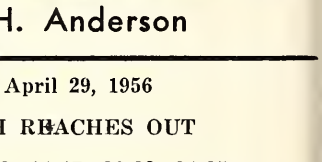
The method of operation by the false prophets is under false pretenses (Matt. 7:15). They teach perverse things contrary to the Bible doctrine to draw away a following (Acts 20:29, 30; Rom. 16:17). They do not care how much trouble and heartache they may cause (Gal. 1:7). They use underhanded schemes (Gal. 2:4). They pretend to be very devout (2 Tim. 3:5). They meet with good success because the people are gullible for attention and are eager to hear some new thing (2 Tim. 4:3; 2 Peter 2:1, 2). When their arguments fail they resort to scoffing (2 Peter 3:3). Where they cannot take over they withdraw and take as many as possible along with them (1 John 2:19).

We are told not to believe everything we hear but to TEST what we hear by the pure Word of God (1 John 4:1). "Many deceivers" means a lot of deception (2 John 7). Such deceptive workers do not know what they are talking about because their minds are closed to the truth (Jude 4:10, 18, 19). And yet they PROFESS a GREAT loyalty to Christ (2 Cor. 11:13-15). In their deceitfulness they are SO clever that if it were possible they would deceive the very elect (Matt. 24:24). Like the communistic agents they have a deliberate design of creeping in "unawares," and "privily" bringing in "destructive heresies." Some are even demonic and diabolic, so much are they the ministers of Satan (1 Tim. 4:1).

Why are seemingly intelligent people so easily duped by Satan? Some, the Bible teaches, stoop for reward (2 Peter 2:3, 15; Jude 11; 1 Tim. 6:5). Some are looking for advantage (Jude 16). Some are covetous (2 Peter 2:14). The founders of false cults have raised to themselves immense wealth. And then others have sensual lusts (Jude 18,19). These are the motives Bible-given for false ministries.

We Christians are to avoid all such (Romans 16:17), contribute nothing to them (2 John 10, 11), withdraw from them (1 Tim. 6:5; 2 Cor. 6:14, 17). Instead, we are to earnestly contend FOR the true faith (which was ONCE for all time delivered to the saints (Jude 3).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson



Lesson for April 29, 1956

THE CHURCH REACHES OUT

Lesson: Acts 8:4-8, 14-17, 26-28, 34-35

"GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD, and preach the Gospel," was the command of Christ to the early disciples. For this reason Christ had dealt patiently and stedfastly with His followers—that, when He would depart from them, they might go forth to the ends of the world carrying the good news of salvation.

As we read the first several chapters of the Book of Acts, we find the disciples had settled down in Jerusalem, content to limit their witness to that city.

It is true Jesus had said to them: "But tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem" (Luke 24:49). Were they not obeying the Master? Not exactly. That was not all Christ said. "But tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." They were to tarry until the Day of Pentecost. With reference to that day, Jesus told them: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Very definite and clear, then, was the instruction of Jesus Christ. The disciples were not to remain in the Holy City. Their witness was to begin there, but from that city they were to reach out to the "uttermost part of the earth."

From many of our churches today comes this cry whenever foreign missions is mentioned: "We have a

mission field right here in our own land!" "I think we ought to take care of our own church first!"

Such statements are reminiscent of another voice two centuries ago, spoken to young William Carey, who, in a ministerial meeting in Nottingham, England, suggested this topic for discussion: "The duty of Christians to attempt the spread of the gospel among heathen nations." The venerable moderator rose and in an agitated voice said: "Young man, sit down. When God pleases to convert the heathen, He will do it without your aid or mine."

In the first seven chapters of Acts we find the disciples still in Jerusalem. Although they were busily engaged in the work, they were not obeying Christ's command to "reach out."

Thus it was that God stepped in. In last week's lesson we studied the life of Stephen, the first Christian martyr, as found in Acts 6 and 7. Chapter seven closes with the portrayal of Stephen's death. Then we read in Acts 8:1: "And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria."

Then we read in the fourth verse: "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word."

In other words, God had to permit persecution to come upon the church before the early Christians would obey His command to carry the Gospel to the ends of the world!

What will have to happen to the church today before she will fully obey God? What will God allow to happen before Christian people everywhere will witness of the saving power of Jesus Christ?

The Church of Jesus Christ must **reach out,** or she will **die out!**

"White are the fields for the harvest,
Workers are all too few.
Souls are awaiting the message
Christ still depends on you!"

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of May

Topic: "Power For a World Mission"

1. Waiting For Power—Luke 24:44-49. Supernatural power was transmitted to the disciples for three primary reasons: (1) That Christ would be in them as a Comforter and strengthen them, thus keeping the disciples constantly aware of the many things He taught them while He was with them. (2) That those who heard the disciples preach could be assured of their message concerning the divinity of Christ through the miracles they could perform in His name. (3) That such power would be reflected in their preaching and thus be instrumental in converting the multitudes for Christ. Today we have no such miraculous gifts. Do you think our work of bringing others to Christ is a more difficult one? What do you think is our greatest asset as Christians trying to win others for Christ?

2. Promise Of Power—Joel 2:28-32; Acts 1:8. The Book of Joel was written some time between 830-750 B. C. Luke, the author of the Book of Acts, written centuries later during the early days of the church, made direct reference to this particular passage from Joel, citing it as an example of a prophecy fulfilled. (Also see Acts 2:16-21). Truly the Day of Pentecost saw the power of God working. The apostles had been promised power that would enable them to be effective witnesses for Christ. The rest of the Book of Acts confirms the fact that they did receive power.

3. How The Spirit Came—Acts 2:1-12. In the first verse the unity of the disciples is described—"they were all with one accord in one place." On the Day of Pentecost, the period of waiting for power was ended. The Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples as a mighty rushing wind and in the likeness of fiery tongues. The result was the disciples were able to speak and understand different languages heretofore foreign to them. The evidence of the disciples receiving this supernatural gift is found in I Cor. 14:1-22 where specific instructions are given concerning the use of such knowledge.

4. Who The Spirit Is—John 15:22-27; Luke 4:18. "God is especially present in the hearts of His people, by His Holy Spirit; and indeed the hearts of holy men are temples in the truth of things, and, in type and shadow, they are heaven itself. For God reigns in the hearts of His servants; there is His kingdom. The power of grace has subdued all His enemies; there is His power. They serve Him night and day, and give Him thanks and praise; that is His glory." Taylor.

5. What The Spirit Does—John 16:8-11. One Bible scholar describes three different states of man as revealed through the gospel: man under sin; man under grace; and man in the peace and glory of heaven. Under sin man lacks faith in Christ, and His power of redemption. Therefore, man has infidelity toward God. Under grace man is pardoned from his sins through his faith in Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of mankind. In the peace and glory of heaven is that state of eternity where Christ reigns and Satan is banished. These three states of man are presented in this passage from John. In your opinion, what is the primary reason men reject the grace of God? How would you explain the grace of God to a child?

6. The Church Begins—Acts 2:41-47. On the Day of Pentecost about three thousand people were baptized and added to the church. These acts culminated the preaching by the apostles and the hearing, accepting, and believing on the part of the people. But the story of Pentecost goes still further, for we read in verse 42 that the converts continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine. In other words, they not only listened to the preaching of the gospel, but they believed what they heard, retained such knowledge, and then put the principles of the gospel into action through everyday living. Are these steps still essential?

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

A LONG SHOT

IT IS A LONG WAY from the National Youth Board office to the local group of young people. Much longer even than some people think. It is difficult to give personal attention to every letter in the manner in which the correspondent would like, because there are many other things pressing at the same time. Files cannot be kept up to date because of the fact that local leaders change from time to time, oftener than once a year sometimes, and human nature being what it is, these names are not sent in for the record. Then too, about one third of the number of churches have no stable and steady leadership at all, thus those whom we would like to get in touch with in a very personal way are the very groups which we have no way of contacting personally. The problem is, primarily, a local problem. There must be a genuine interest on the part of someone to have a close relationship with the higher board, then there must be someone as mediator, or someone who stands personally responsible for the group.

GOOD DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

There is only one answer to this problem, and that is good district youth organization. It is proved in two of our districts that this is so. The Pennsylvania District is a shining example. Each year a district Youth Retreat is held in which the problems of youth are presented and discussed, and plans are worked out for a future program in the district—and, need I say, this program influences the local groups considerably, since they are so vitally associated with the district organization. Understand, now, that the district would be at a loss as to organization if the local groups did not co-operate!

OHIO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Ohio District is another good example, at least when it comes to moving out and making plans. Just recently a very efficient board, under the leadership of the present Ohio District Moderator, Rev. John Byler, New Lebanon, met and discussed detailed plans for a complete Ohio Youth Conference, to meet simultaneously with the regular conference. Plans were made for a special speaker, similar to the program of National Conference, some entertainment, a banquet, fellowship and devotion. Perhaps they are lucky this year since the conference will be near the lake, for swimming will play a big part in the recreation for the young people.

A couple of other terrifically wonderful ideas were a special "Youth Breakfast" one morning—if the arrangements can be made—and a SUNRISE SERVICE. You don't have to wait until Easter to have a sunrise service. It seems to me that such plans are going to call for more Ohio District Youth Conferences in the future. First thing you know youth will be covering the Ohio Conference grounds, just as they do at the General Conference in Ashland each August.

MEETING THE NEED

You can say what you please—and we do a lot of talking—but there is only one way to have a satisfying youth program. MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUTH. It is not a matter of simply "keeping them happy." There must be a deep need met in the lives of youth. When I hear criticism of young people concerning their poor attendance at church I think that the trouble is with the church. It is not meeting the needs of the youth. This is true of adults also. When the church generally meets the needs of the people, when the Upper Room is made popular to Christians instead of the Supper Room, when there is a more consistent program of feeding the flock instead of clicking the cliques, there will again be congregations. I didn't say it is easy, now did I? I don't believe it was easy for Jesus to die on the Cross. But it met the needs of the world. Hence "all men" are drawn unto Him. It is something to think about and plan for. As a national board we have to accept the criticism that in some areas we are not meeting the needs of our local BYC groups. We are forced to accept that criticism. We must recognize it, for the first step in solving any problem is to recognize that you have one. And given enough time and financial and moral support, we will meet that need. We must, or fail as a youth organization. The same is true of you and your district and local organization. You have a wonderful opportunity in your district, since you are close to your work. Why not take the first step? Plan a Youth Retreat or a Youth Conference in your district for fellowship, inspiration and leadership.

PRAYER ATTITUDES

PAUL WAS A GREAT REVIVALIST, a peerless theologian, and organizer of the first order, yet the strength of his life was not found in any one of these, nor was it found in all of them combined. But it was found in his prayer power.

Prayer is characterized by humility. In the first chapter of the book of Philippians, Paul sets forth a model for all praying. He takes the place of a servant, and those for whom he prays, he speaks of as saints. Let it be observed that Paul, the chief apostle, did not exalt himself, but took the lowest position possible. This is always the true attitude for effective praying.

Prayer begins with thanksgiving. As he looked upon Philippi, Paul had very many reasons to feel disturbed and offended because of the ill treatment he had received there; yet all that was lost in the glorious memory of what that church had become in the Gospel. He prayed "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

Prayer is contingent upon the right relationship with God. Paul's prayer began in such a relationship for he said, "My God." It is noted that

he was not praying to saints, nor to angels, nor to some church leader, but to God—sovereign, supreme, yet a personal heavenly Father whom he loved passionately and for whose glory he had forsaken all things earthy.

Prayer is contingent upon a right attitude toward our fellow man. This characterized Paul's prayer. Note his statement: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you." There was no grudge-holding, no animosity, no personal resentment; only a deep appreciation for what God's grace had wrought in the lives of these individuals. The heart that maintains anything towards another that is not based primarily upon thanksgiving cannot truly pray.

Prayer has a hopeful outlook. Paul's prayer began in a hopeful look towards the future. "Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

He was not bargaining for a grave yard for the church. His song was not in a minor key. His faith rested not in the pugnacity and stubbornness of the men at Philippi, but in the keeping and sustaining power of God.

Now gathering up a bit. The ideal prayer is one coming from a heart that is in right relationship to life, right relationship to God and right relationship toward fellow men. He who lives this sort of life has all the promises of God at his disposal, and he may claim as his right anything and everything that lies in the will of God.

Should prayer be hindered, or should it be unanswered, examine very carefully your attitudes on these three relationships correcting anything that may be out of harmony with God's will. Then in faith press forward and claim all your inheritance in the Lord.—Wesleyan Methodist.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

THE PURIFYING FLAME

"He is like a refiner's fire." Malachi 3:2.

THE WORK OF GOD in the human heart may well be described as a purifying flame. It is His desire to free us from the sinful impurities which hinder our Christian service and obstruct His divine purpose. Selfishness, greed, hatred, unkindness and love of the world, all must go; and this cannot be accomplished by good resolves. It requires a power above all human description, a personal touch from the hand of God, and a presence which, like the refiner's fire, burns up the cheap and shoddy and leaves only pure gold. The presence of God with man, in the most vivid and dramatic instances in the Scriptures, is pictured as a divine flame.

A shepherd named Moses one day saw in the desert a "flame of fire out of the midst of a bush" (Exodus 3:2) and, when he stopped to look, God spoke to him out of the bush. The flame was the symbol of a Holy Presence. A prophet named Elijah prayed on Mt. Carmel (I Kings 18), and "the fire of the Lord fell." That fire was the indication of divine power. Alone one day in the temple, Preacher Isaiah saw the Lord, and the vision was accompanied by the smoke that filled the room and the burning coal that touched his unclean lips. That burning coal was the mark of divine cleansing. The disciples, gathered in the place of prayer on the Day of Pentecost, saw a tongue of flame come down and rest on each of them, as "they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." That flame symbolized the refiner's fire, the cleansing, indwelling, empowering Holy Spirit. The first chapter of Revelation describes Jesus Christ in His glory, with hair white as snow, and eyes like a flame of fire. There can be no doubt that God the Father, and Jesus Christ the Saviour, and the abiding Holy Spirit are all pictured by a living, purifying flame, in whose presence sin cannot remain.

The great need of this hour is for Christians to know the love and power of God like a flame in their hearts, burning out all that is carnal, selfish and trivial. This burning love gives the Christian his standards. This holy flame is his defense in a world gone far from God. It gives him an evangelistic heart, until, touched by the fire, he cries like Isaiah, "Lord send me!" We must add to the profession of Christian faith the experience of a personal pentecost, which at once both cleanses and fills.

Oh, that in me the sacred fire
  Might now begin to glow,
Burn up the dross of base desire
  And make the spirit flow.

Refining fire, go thro' my heart;
  Illuminate my soul;
Scatter thy life through every part
  And sanctify the whole.

Mrs. J. F. Burton,
Mulvane, Kansas.

Brethren Historical Library
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N. Manchester, Ind.

FUN-TO-PLAY

Bible Games

BOXED BIBLE GAMES

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Trav-E-Log of Christ

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Regular Edition, Boxed, 75¢
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(*Old Testament*) Includes a beautiful full-color playing board, 300 quiz slips, 4 pawns and complete, easy-to-understand directions. Makes the Old Testament interesting and understandable.

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Deluxe Edition (with extra heavy playing board), Boxed, $1.00

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Same as TRAV-E-LOG OF CHRIST above, but simplified and designed for boys and girls. Includes playing board, quiz slips, pawns and directions. Boxed, 50¢

Junior Bible Trav-E-Log

(*Old Testament*) Same as BIBLE TRAV-E-LOG described above, but simplified and completely revised for boys and girls. Boxed, 50¢

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Add 15¢ per game for postage and packing.

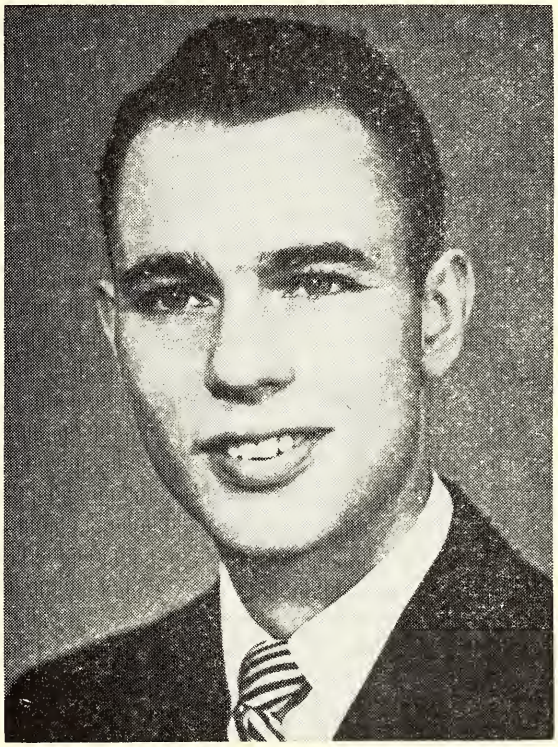
Order from The Brethren Publishing Company

Ashland, Ohio.

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

PHIL LERSCH ACCEPTS APPOINTMENT AS BRETHREN YOUTH DIRECTOR



MANCHESTER COLLEGE LIBRARY
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

Begins with Brethren Youth on June 11th

(Story on Page Ten)

VOL. LXXVIII April 28, 1956 No. 17

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

WOODSTOCK, VIRGINIA. ST. LUKE BRETHREN. Brother John F. Locke, of Maurertown, is conducting a revival meeting for the St. Luke Brethren the latter part of April, closing on May 1st.

HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND. The Hagerstown bulletin reports an attendance of 225 at the Eastertime Communion.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. Brother Ralph E. Mills notes an increase of 35% on Easter over previous Easter attendance.

GRATIS, OHIO. A "Win-A-Bible" Contest was scheduled to begin on April 22nd. Points will be awarded for S. S. attendance, morning worship and the bringing of visitors.

The Gratis Father and Son banquet was scheduled for April 25th.

NEWARK, OHIO. Brother William S. Crick reports the baptism of three on April 8th.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. The Men's Gospel Team of Ashland College will be in charge of the morning and evening services in the Louisville Church on April 29th.

DENVER, INDIANA. Church Secretary Mrs. Fayette Shoemaker, sends in the following word: "The Denver Brethren Church, at its recent business meeting, by ballot, gave a unanimous call to its pastor, Rev. Austin Gable, for another year of service to the church. He has accepted the call."

LOREE, INDIANA. Word from Brother Claud Studebaker notes that he will be closing his pastorate at Loree as of September 1st. Dr. Studebaker says, "We are closing our pastorate here after five very splendid years, and shall be glad to consider a call to another field." Dr. Studebaker's address is Bunker Hill, Indiana, R. D. 1.

Two new members were received into the church recently.

ROANOKE, INDIANA. Brother Paul D. Tinkel writes, "On Easter Sunday we hit an all-time high of 110. Also we had a very good service otherwise. We had 6 new converts (3 children, 3 adults); one lady came forward for reconsecration. We had our baptismal service Sunday, April 8th, at the Huntington Brethren Church. We plan to have the reception of members April 22nd. We also had our Quarterly Business meeting Monday, April 9th, and are very thankful to God and happy to note that all departments are going along very well. Our prayer is that we can prosper the next 3 months as well or better than we did the last."

The Senior Class of the Roanoke High School has chosen Brother Tinkel as their Baccalaureate Speaker.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Nine were baptized on April 8th. One new member was received by letter.

(Continued on Page 14)

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 14)

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH RALLY
MAURERTOWN, VIRGINIA, BRETHREN CHURCH

May 4th — 6:00 P. M. E. S. T.

Banquet—$1.00

PROGRAM MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Dr. Joseph Shultz, Mrs. Shultz at the piano. Stunts, skits. Rev. Klingensmith will tell of Camp Plans for 1956.

Young people from Southeastern District Churches: COME!

Mrs. John F. Locke, Secretary,
Christian Education Committee of the
Southeastern District Conference.

The Editor's Pulpit

For Your Careful Attention

SIGNIFICANT in the news of the Denomination this week are two items as announced through the pages of this **Evangelist**, namely, the selection of a new Brethren Youth Director, and, the announcement of additional Campus housing for General Conference delegates.

BRETHREN YOUTH DIRECTOR

Two weeks ago the **Evangelist** announced to the Brotherhood that our Brethren Youth Director, Clarence Stogsdill, had tendered his resignation to the Board. Brother Stogsdill has done a wonderful job in Brethren Youth the past 3½ years. He has won his way into the hearts of hundreds of our young people through his sincere devotion to duty and his down-to-earth human interest in young people and their problems. His fine record as Brethren Youth Director has been achieved in spite of the plague of a "less-than-necessary" response on the part of the Church to the financial needs of the Brethren Youth program. Congratulations, Brother Stogsdill, on your fine record of achievement, and we wish you well, and God's blessings upon you, in your further work for Him—as you leave Brethren Youth in June.

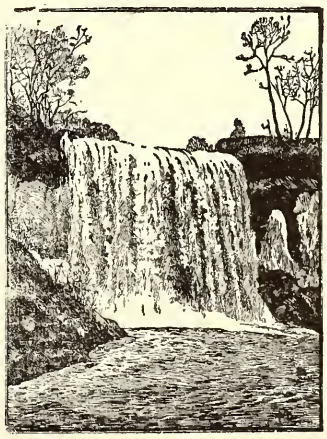
The announcement of Brother Phil Lersch as successor to Brother Stogsdill comes as a result of a meeting of the Youth Board in mid-April. Phil comes to Brethren Youth well qualified, as we have noted in our article on page 10. We pray God's blessings on you, Phil, and upon Brethren Youth as you, in a few months, assume the wheel of the good ship Brethren Youth.

GENERAL CONFERENCE HOUSING

The matter of additional housing on the Ashland College campus has been a dream of many since the Conference came to Ashland in 1940. With continued interest and attendance at General Conference, additional housing was desperately needed. This year, the dream comes true, as you will note in an announcement on page 7 by Ashland College Business Manager, A. Glenn Carpenter.

Jacob's Hall, new men's dormitory on the Ashland College campus, will be available to provide additional "on campus" housing for many Conference delegates. It will enable many people to stay longer at the Conference than was possible before because of the crowded housing conditions in the city of Ashland that week. At this point we give a word of gratitude and appreciation to the people of the city of Ashland for making rooms in their homes available to Conference delegates, through the years.

Since more room is now available for housing, it is our suggestion that many more of our Brethren plan to attend our General Conference this August. We suggest that many who formerly came for just a day, or for several days, plan now to attend for the entire week. Each day of Conference is planned with a purpose, and to attend the entire week is to obtain a wholesome comprehension of the entire work and plans of the Brethren advance.—W. S. B.



Moderator's Address 1955 Pennsylvania District Conference

Rev. N. V. Leatherman

"An Appreciation of The Brethren Church"

Part II

(Continued from last week)

Many of these same Brethren sensed that their new movement was too loose jointed, and two extremely congregational in practical methods of procedure, and in 1915 formed a more understandable way of doing things, as summed up in the adopted Manual of Procedure. This Manual sought to chart the course for the polity of the churches. It sought to explain the relationships of the congregations with both the District and the General Conferences It gave the pattern for beginning new congregations under the guidance and assistance of Mission Boards, Boards of Evangelists and Ministerial Examining Boards. It sought to direct the extreme individualism in church management to a more considerate management for the whole church. In this new movement and attendant reorganization they were fairly successful. A church that had broken away from the supreme dominance of the church order, and had swung to the opposite extreme of individualism, could not easily be brought back to a closer cooperative body. But this was being effected very commendably and the Brethren Church was well on its way for real growth and progress, when the consternation and havoc of the thirties struck with such terrific force as to cleave her in two, right down the center. Much has been said to justify this catastrophe: some right, some wrong. And in this short address I am going to dismiss the matter by saying of that whole movement —so unnecessary, and as time has proven, so unproductive of the kind of fruits the Lord has right to expect from His followers.

But like every other such calamity with which the Lord's church has been handicapped through the centuries, after humility and repentance, "Let us go on unto perfection—Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith."

Brethren, we have a truly great background. But let us not stay in the background. Let us again become Progressive, as at the beginning. Let us not be motivated by despair and develop an inferiority complex, which plainly is lack of faith. Let us rather look ahead, see our day as the Lord would have us see it, and as His Spirit can give us the vision to see it, learn how to meet the situations as they present themselves, and go forward in the name of our Lord, our Saviour, our Redeemer, our Great High Priest, our present King invisible, and our coming King of kings, and Lord of lords.

We should not be pessimists. We should not be false optimists. Let us become spiritual realists. Evil is rampant in the land. It does its worst while you and I are asleep; but it is dreadfully real. We must make this evil show up for what it is: SIN. Shall America be swallowed up in her own slime, and go down in it like all the nations of the past, because there are no people left to warn her of her doom? Must our people lose hope and courage because there is no one to point to the holy promise of God in Christ Jesus? Must the churches continue to suffer through lethargy, ignorance and indifference because there are no evangelists, no preachers to awaken them? Must our people be allowed to sleep while hell itself comes closer and closer to them? Brethren, no Christian, no church, no denomination can renounce their responsibilities in the face of the tragedies that you and I face today.

Therefore, let us look briefly at the Brethren Church of today, to envision her working machinery, her possibilities for improvement and responsibility in charting a real course for progress.

Today our church is managed by Boards instead of individuals. In this transition from extreme individualism to a more cooperative church management much time has been consumed in learning and experimentation of these new methods of progress. As a result, we have had

many involuntary slow-downs. Perhaps the healthiest expression we can make today, is to say, now that we have had time to learn and experiment by Boards and Conferences, we should be in position to proceed on our way for real progress and advancement for our blessed Lord and His Church, as we Brethren have assumed, by virtue of maintaining the integrity of our branch of protestantism.

From the standpoint of polity, there is a crying need for a closer cooperation between our Boards and Conferences. There is a growing tendency for each National or General Board to consider that it alone represents the church instead of its particular responsibilities. Judgment would dictate that all these Boards, or representatives thereof, should sit down together and chart the course of the church. We may pass this suggestion out the window by saying that it is the business of General Conference. But General Conference has come to the place where it hears reports of these Boards, passes on a few suggestions from these Boards, elects the personnel nominated by these Boards, and does very little charting the course of the church. While this may be a General Conference matter, the Pennsylvania District Conference may memorialize General Conference for any consideration for improvement. Our earlier Brethren taught us this good method of procedure.

Also there should be a closer cooperative basis formed between the General Boards and the District Boards. Judgment would suggest to the General Boards in presenting nominations before General Conference that consideration be given to tie in with the personnel of our District Boards. There was a time when not one member of the Pennsylvania District Mission Board was on the General Mission Board. But this was pointed out and has been corrected to date.

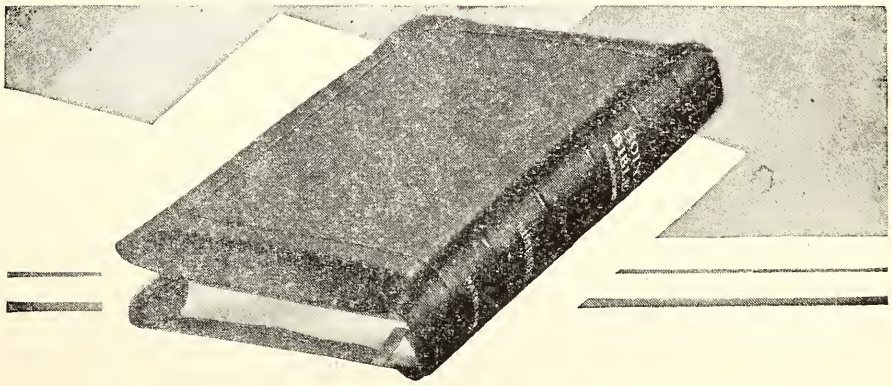
It is to be greatly appreciated that the ministers and pastors of the Brethren Church now have arranged for a national Pastor's Conference each Spring. This has already proven profitable for both ministers as well as the churches. Likewise I want to commend the pastors of Pennsylvania for their renewed interest in the possibilities of their District Ministerium. This year they are providing a renewed interest and program on Evangelism, which it is hoped will be definitely felt among all the churches of the District. A careful look at your Conference program reveals, however, that practically every interest of the church has some place for public demonstration, except the District Ministerium. The Panel Discussion led by Brother Rev. Bolton, Wednesday, may approach this interest. Although your Moderator helped to form this program, he failed to note this in time to have it included, and would recommend its consideration for future conference programs. There are items of special interest among the pastors of our churches that are not only of interest to all the delegates; but those which will culture their appreciation as well. This District Conference and her churches do appreciate their ministers, and are looking to them for leadership as well as inspiration. This should be studiously provided with all the dignity of the Holy Spirit.

The Laymen's Organization is one of the comparatively new movements in the Brethren Church, and is worthy of all the encouragement the church has to offer. While the laymen of the church should be the main stay of every congregation, and in many respects are, it still remains true that they have both been neglected and themselves have neglected what they are now seeking to do through their organization. Namely, to culture individual expression in both the devotional and Christian social side of their personalities, as well as enter into those collective projects, in the promotion of local, district and general church interests. They are on their way, even with many handicaps, with men who have never been trained to speak or pray before groups; those whose expressions have been mostly inaudable or silent along these Christian lines. All power to you men as you seek the Lord's will for your lives and your special work.

Very early in the Brethren Church the women of the church banded together, first in the Sister's Society of Christian Endeavor, which later became the Woman's Missionary Society of the Brethren Church, to do some of the things hurting to be done by them. Perhaps your Moderator is prejudiced in their favor because of his observation and experience. The church he now serves never would have been, had it not been for the banding together in a bond that would not be broken, by the women of the W. M. S. There are many features of this movement worthy of commendation that time forbids our mentioning here.

Certainly no review of the Brethren Church and reasons for our appreciation can pass by the Sunday Schools. But this is often done, perhaps more, because we take this very good part of the work of the church for granted.

(Continued on Page 8)



MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

THE WITNESS OF THE CLASS OF RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Pattie and Irven Stern

IN THE GLARING AFRICAN SUN the jeep bounced through the bush toward a low mud building with a grass roof, distinguished by its square shape and its location at a short distance from its neighbors. We piled out and entered the small porthole-like windows of the building which was only approximately fifteen by thirty feet. It was some minutes before our eyes became accustomed to the dim interior, and then we could see that it was occupied by about 110 young Nigerians, crowded together on low mud benches. This was a typical village class of religious instruction in their Sunday morning service.

Teachers

The teacher of the class was a former patient at the Garkida Leprosarium who had been discharged as an arrested case. His stumps of feet and gnarled hands attested to the advancement of his case before treatment. He hobbled over and greeted us with a broad smile and we visited for some time.

This Nigerian instructs his pupils daily in religion, health, the rudiments of reading, writing, and arithmetic, and other things. His school acts as a feeder for the Lassa junior primary school, interesting the pupils in the possibilities of further education and getting them started in the Christian way.

This man and his twenty fellow CRI teachers are the great force for Christ in the Lassa area. These men serve not only as school teachers but also as the spiritual leaders in their villages, sort of pastors to the people. They are the leaders of adult education and any type of Christian club that might be organized in the village. Some act as dispensers of medicines to the village, for which work they receive training at the Lassa hospital. They are ambassadors for Christ in Nigeria.

Schools

In addition to these twenty-six classes of religious instruction, there are four junior primary schools in the outlying Lassa area. Each of these schools has two or three teachers with a total of about 225 pupils in the four schools. When the pupils finish these schools they then can enter the Lassa school on the Class III level.

For the last two weeks, twenty-four of the twenty-six C. R. I. teachers have been at Lassa for a refresher course. Some of them had to come a distance of thirty-five miles and swim two rivers on the way. In the rainy season this is no easy feat. All the men walked or came by bicycle except one former leper who rode in on a donkey. For the former lepers the distance must have seemed especially far. There is no road or even a track to most of the villages, and all communication is by walking.

Classes in the refresher course are being taught by John Grimley, who is heading up the course and is in charge of it. Other teachers helping him are Mrs. Grimley; the pastor, Pastor Karbam; the nurse, Mallum Fali; and the teacher, Mallum Elijah. Their busy schedule is filled with such subjects as doctrine, study of Acts, classes of singing, reading, first aid, better methods of teaching, and general knowledge. It is an inspiring sight to see them at study or hear them singing. They are a lively, interested group and eager to learn. It is difficult to stick to a strict schedule because of their interest in asking questions.

Qualifications

None of these men could qualify as missionaries by standards set up by any mission board. None of them have more than the equivalent of a fifth or sixth grade education and they have not gone to seminary or any specialized school to train for this work. Yet who can doubt the witness they are making and their effectiveness in doing good?

Many of the teachers would be unable to pass the simplest physical examination. Of the group eight have arrested cases of leprosy. To meet the group walking between classes one is instantly struck by the fact that many of them are crippled—blind in one eye, or with deformed hands and feet, or maimed in some other way. Truly Christ has called "the halt, the lame, and the blind" to witness for him in this land!

C. R. I. Products

What are the results of the labors of these twenty-four men who are attending this course?

In the twenty-six classes of religious instruction there is a total of 539 pupils attending the daily classes. A large percentage of these will come to Lassa to attend

(Continued on Page 15)

MISSIONARY BOARD TO HOLD QUARTERLY MEETING

The Missionary Board will hold its quarterly meeting on May 15; the Executive Committee convening the preceding evening. This is the time for budget making. All home mission churches are urged to have their financial reports and requests for the ensuing year in the Board office by May 11.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

CONFERENCE HOUSING HEADQUARTERS WILL BE AT JACOB'S HALL

Seventy rooms with twin beds will be available. Both men and women will be accommodated. Six rooms on first floor will be reserved for women delegates who have difficulty climbing stairs.

All Conference meals will be served in Jacob's Hall dining-room. A commodious lounge is arranged for your comfort.

Sisterhood girls will continue to room at Allen Hall.

Glenn Haller Court will not be open this year for Junior boys. Approximately twenty boys can be accommodated at the Junior and Senior houses.

Rates—Rooms

Jacob's Hall room $1.00 a night per person, two in a room.
Allen Hall room ...50 a night per person, two in a room.
Sr. and Jr. House... .50 a night per person, two in a room.

Sisterhood girls and Junior boys must furnish their own sheets, pillow slips, and blankets.

Rates—Meals

Six day meal ticket $11.00
Breakfasts, .30.....Dinners, .90.....Lunches .75

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Rooming and eating at Jacob's Hall this Conference time should be a real pleasure and privilege for our delegates. Jacob's Hall has been constructed with borrowed Federal funds. It is self-liquidating. We need to have it filled with delegates and friends Conference week. You will be doing a real favor both to yourself and to the College by rooming and taking all your meals at Jacob's Hall. Let your Conference money help Ashland College to meet her building obligations. We will try to make your week a pleasant one.

No deposits are required for rooms.

For reservations write to A. Glenn Carpenter, Business Manager, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

AN APPRECIATION OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH

(Continued from Page 5)

Doubtless we have taken our Sunday Schools too much for granted, to the neglect of one of the best agencies with which the Lord has blessed the church, for teaching, for evangelism, as well as to just get folks coming through the doors of the church. It has been your Moderator's experience that the greatest hold the church has upon the people of any community is the children. Sunday School, with its Daily Vacation Bible School, does provide the best means at hand today to interest the disinterested and unchurched people in the Lord and His Church.

The Brethren Church has always been a good Sunday School Church. But there is much room for improvement. One good movement forward was in securing Dr. Joseph R. Shultz, who has proven himself a capable field worker for the National Sunday School Association this past year.

Likewise the Young Peoples' Camp program sponsored by the Sunday School Association and District Boards is one of the most encouraging movements in recent years. They afford the vital spots where our youth are led to dedicate their lives for full time Christian service. Camp Juniata alone has had at least twenty young men dedicate themselves to the ministry, and are now serving Brethren Churches. Among these are Rev. Clayton Berkshire, our General Secretary to the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church; Rev. W. S. Benshoff, our Editor of Publications, and many others we cannot name here. Brethren, this is your Sunday School movement. Take courage and move forward with it.

Any member of the Brethren Church who is not aware of the value, inspiration and importance of the Brethren Youth movement, is missing a vision that would give them much encouragement and increase their appreciation of the Brethren Church. While we cannot go into the details of this movement here, we do want to express our viewpoint. We think of Brethren Youth as a movement, more than what might be considered a logical organization. But we have observed some logical organizations that never moved at all. We believe this movement has already commended itself to Brethren alive to the best forward designs of the church, and bespeak for its leadership, a full and unrestrained response and appreciative cooperation.

Among many other things that could and some that perhaps should be mentioned, for special consideration for the Brethren Church today, in her forward look, I have chosen only three, hoping that something good may result from the mentioning.

First, it is hoped from the very brief mentioning of the events and movements that made the Brethren Church what it is today, you have been so inspired to have the details of this history, more clearly and more forcefully brought forward, as to demand a compilation and proper editing of those events for publication in a real history book of the Brethren Church. This could be financed without hurting any one by each congregation contributing the cost of printing the short history of its own church, included in the book, and by sponsoring the sale of so many books to recover that cost.

This could be initiated by the Pennsylvania District Conference taking action for such a publication for the churches of this District, appointing a committee to accomplish the task in not more than three years. If however, other Districts desire to be included in such a publication, reconsideration could be given accordingly.

Much good materials for such a work are wasting. Dr. Martin Shively had a wonderful compilation of biographies that were run in the **Brethren Evangelist** years ago, much appreciated then, and to my last information were buried away in the vaults of the offices at Ashland College, that would be of inestimable worth to the church.

Brethren, we must learn again the inspirational value and importance of more publications. While we do appreciate the splendid historical articles and biographies of Brother Freeman Ankrum, running in the **Brethren Evangelist**, we must speak out; why can we not have something of the same culturing appreciation for the Brethren Church?

In the second place I want to emphasize with all the force I know how another great and crying need in our church today. I am summing this need up with the subject, "The Care of our Church Members." I am afraid of this subject, lest with the necessity for brevity I am misunderstood. I wish I could have another hour to deal with it. Brethren, when we pick up our statistical report and read time after time, that we have lost in a year, nearly as many members as we have gained, we cannot be blind to the fact that something is dreadfully wrong somewhere. We call this loss due to roll revision. Now let me be understood; I believe in roll revision. But not the kind the Brethren Church has been guilty of for the last ten or fifteen years. We listened to the statistician's report in the Southeastern District Conference only a few weeks ago, when it was stated that 500 were deleted from the records by roll revision. That is not right. One church in this district halved its membership on two different occasions in my experience in

IT CAN BE DONE

Just suppose that every one in your local church resolved that they would try to contact one new family each month, and endeavor to "sell" the church and its ministry to that family.

And just suppose that the combined effort of all brought in only ONE new family each month. In twelve months we would have TWELVE new families in the church.

The church and its ministry must be "sold." We are all traveling salesmen for Christ and His Gospel.

Talk it over among yourselves and mention it to your pastor. IT CAN BE DONE!

—Exchange.

the district. Brethren, something very wrong prevails to alow this thing to continue. It must be checked.

Several reasons may be given to explain this situation. In the first place our churches never did learn how to keep membership books. In congregations where the finance officers must have the very latest and up-to-date record books, we often find the most abominable if not abdominal type of records of the membership of the church. In all my experience serving eleven congregations I found only one good record book of the membership. That was where the secretary of that church was continued from the beginning in 1894 and knew how to keep books and sensed the importance of a good record of members. And he told me what difficulty he had through the years, of pastors baptizing folks and burying folks without ever thinking to report the matter to the secretary who kept the records. Of all bookkeeping, we ought to be most concerned with our membership records. Somehow you would think that if folks moving away and deaths were all there was to cause this disastrous roll revision we would soon be caught up with it. But no, it is continuing year after year.

In the second place, I am becoming convinced much of this loss is due to a careless and indifferent concern for the members we now have. Too frequently the state ment is made that the church progresses as much by the folks who go out the back door as by those who come in the front door. I am frightened every time I hear that. A changed attitude must be cultured toward church membership.

In the third place, some churches are cutting their rolls for the sake of cutting their apportionments to the Mission Boards and the Conferences. Brethren, if we cannot improve on that, then we had better cut out our apportionments. We ought to remember we are dealing with souls just as much after they are in the church and their names are on the records, as we are in trying to get them into the church in the first place. Financial reasons for deleting names from the records cannot stand before a just God in heaven. Our fore-fathers who practiced avoidance as tight as the Roman Catholic Church practiced excommunication, at least tried a member and gave him a hearing.

In the fourth place, some of these records are being revised promiscuously. Every man, or every church does that which is right in his or their own eyes. We seemingly have no recognized standard when it comes to roll revision.

Therefore, I recommend that the Pennsylvania District Ministerial Examining Board, which is also our Board of Evangelists, be instructed to study this problem, and bring some studied report to next year's District Conference.

The last item we bring to your attention today is the matter of Evangelism and Church Extension. We make this item very brief in this address, not because it is not important; but because it is being cared for in other parts of this program of Conference. Sufficient be it here to say these two items are primary to the churchs' growth and progress.

We would offer this caution, that we be not too sure we know the last word on either evangelism or church extension. Your Moderator is convinced the doors for both are wide open in America, and the world today, if we have the vision to see them, and the will and self-sacrifice to enter them. We have not learned all there is to learn in the planting of new churches. But this is a thing we must do if we would progress or even hold our own. We do a lot of talking about this. It is easy to stand up in conference and talk about building two new churches each year. We can arbitrarily say we can build a church in five years. Much of this kind of talk is void of both experience and a willingness to actually do it. What we need is both a demonstration and the power.

This address is too long; but I could not find a suitable place to quit. If conference had had the privilege to vote in the matter I am sure it could have found a dozen such places. It all depends upon our watch tower.

May the Lord bless all of us in our appreciation of our beloved fraternity, and give us the wisdom by His Spirit, and the incentive by the Lord Himself, to move forward in His Name, pursuing our assigned tasks, anticipating the award He has in store for His faithful ones.

Waynesboro, Penna.

ALCOHOL IS GOOD

It is good in a barometer, a thermometer, and in the radiator of your car in cold weather. Under certain circumstances, it is good cooking fuel. If you want to make varnish or a derby hat, you will need it.

If you are out of gasoline, which may well happen in the not-too-distant future, you can use alcohol by adapting motors.

Alcohol is valuable as a sterilizing agent; it preserves plant specimens and tissues. The old saying is that if you want to preserve a dead body, put it in alcohol and if you want to kill a living body, put alcohol into it.

Alcohol is one of the best of all solvents and is necessary in making many medicinal preparations; perfume manufacturers could not get along without it. We need it for extracts, lotions, liniments, disinfectants, insecticides, in the making of artificial silk and imitation leathers.

As a matter of fact, it has at least 600 legitimate uses in the industries, arts and sciences. In war and peace, it is essential.

The one thing for which it is no earthly good, is consumption as a beverage. Civilized and intelligent people would not think of so misusing it but for the fact that it is a racial custom coming down to us from the days of ignorance.

Sunday School Suggestions by Joseph R. Shultz

(Sponsored by the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church)

"A CONFESSION"

A BRETHREN MINISTER confessed that he didn't think his S. S. was making much progress. He just didn't know what was wrong with **Them.** (Teachers and Officers). They didn't seem to grasp the vision of their work in the area of reaching out.

I then asked the Minister, "Do you have the names and addresses of all pupils enrolled in your school on file?" "Why no, I don't!"

"Do you have a record of every pupil who is attending your school who has never confessed Christ?" "No, **Should I?**"

"Do you have a written record of those pupils in your school who are members of other churches?" "No."

"Do you have the names and addresses of the parents whose children attend the S. S. and they do not attend anywhere?" "No, That is the teacher's job."

Many Brethren Sunday schools have not grown enough to approximate general population increase, much less to reach the unreached in the community. Many local S. S. are not teaching or teaching all they could simply because they are not aware of who they have and who they do not have.

According to Dunn & Bradstreet, 95% of all new businesses fail within five years. This international credit agency gives us the answer, an answer based upon careful analysis made by competent men. They report that more businesses fail because they **lack adequate records** than for any other one reason.

Adequate Sunday School Records

1. Pupil's Permanent Record (Enrollment Card in Central File) This card should record the pupil's name, address, birth date, date enrolled, baptized? member what church? activities, home situation, etc.

2. Class Record Book containing the pupil's record of being present, on time, offering, lesson studied, Bible, and attending church. (Six-Point Record System)

3. Secretary's Monthly Record for Department showing the comparative figures for last month, and same day a year ago.

4. Secretary's Quarterly Record for the Whole School.

Using The Records

1. Prepare charts for the whole school showing the progress (or lack of progress!) the school is making.

2. Let each teacher give a report at the Workers' Conference and outline the steps they are taking to strengthen the weak points.

3. Compare your school with other schools of the same size.

4. Determine the larger departments for ensuing years and allocate the rooms according to their needs.

5. Use the records to watch over the Spiritual growth of individuals and prevent "dropping out."

6. Above all, use records to reach the unreached.

J. R. S.

Phil Lersch announced as new Brethren Youth Director

(Picture on Page One)

THE BRETHREN YOUTH BOARD has announced the appointment of Rev. Phil Lersch, of Ashland, Ohio, as Brethren Youth Director, to fill the post to be vacated by the resignation of Rev. Clarence Stogsdill.

Phil is a Senior in Ashland Theological Seminary, with his Thesis in preparation, to graduate in the Spring of 1957. He was a former member of the Brethren Youth Ambassador Quartet, and as such has traveled extensively among the Brethren Churches. He will travel with the Quartet this summer.

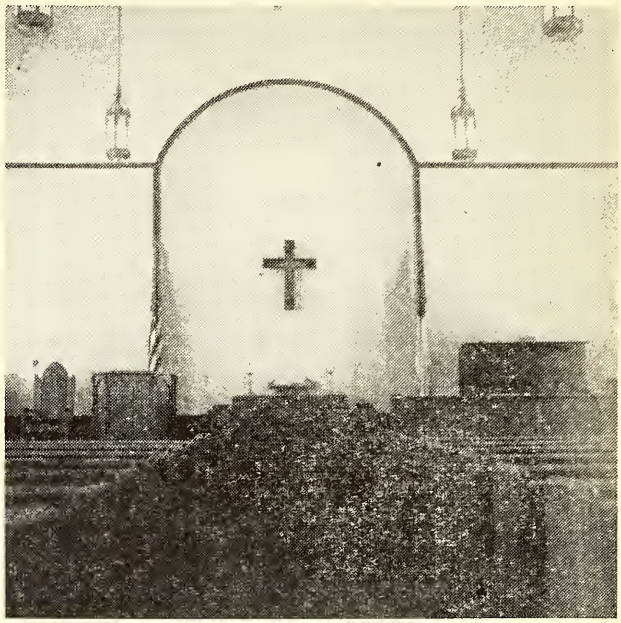
While a student in Ashland College, Phil was Student Council President, 1952-53, was active in musical organizations on the campus, Chairman of the Student Union Board of Governors one year, and was active in college athletics. He was President of the Seminary Student Body one year.

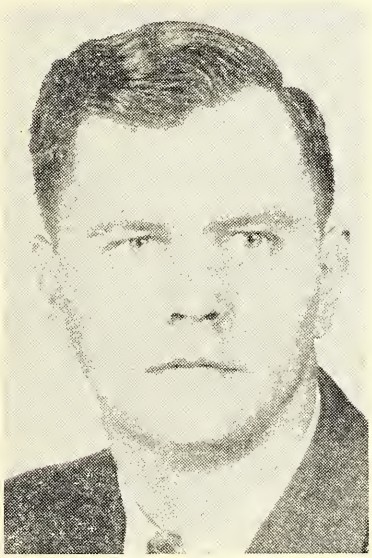
Phil is married to the former Jeanne Lindower, daughter of Dr. L. E. Lindower, Dean of Ashland College, and Mrs. Ida Lindower, Administrative Assistant of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church. He is the son of E. P. Lersch, Director of Public Relations of Ashland College, and the late Mrs. Lersch.

Phil and Jeanne traveled in Europe last summer, spending much of the time as workers in a refugee rehabilitation work project.

Phil, who will begin his work with Brethren Youth on June 11th, plans to visit the District Conferences and Young People's Camps this summer.

MILFORD, INDIANA BRETHREN CHURCH dedicates Remodelled Sanctuary





REV. WOODROW A. IMMEL

ABOVE IS A PICTURE of the interior of the Milford, Indiana, Brethren Church. It has been completely redecorated, new carpet, new lights and new padded pews. Dr. Glenn L. Clayton, President of Ashland College and Seminary, Ashland, Ohio, was with us last fall and helped us dedicate these improvements.

I would like to give you a little more information on our Milford Brethren Church. On Thursday evening of Holy Week we held our Spring Communion Service. Our attendance was overwhelming much to our surprise and joy. It is encouraging to see the services of the Church well attended. Our worship services have been well attended, with a high on Easter Sunday of 137 in Sunday School and 180 in the morning worship service.

On Easter Sunday morning there were five first time confessions. Baptismal Services were held on Sunday, April 8th, at 3:00 P. M. These five make us a total of 15 for the past year. We praise God for His wonderful care and leading in our Church.

Our Brethren Youth Organization has been active this year, with regular meetings. The meetings have been well attended. Many parties and activities have been enjoyed by our young people.

Woodrow A. Immel, Pastor.

"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures . . . " The verb here is strong—He compels me, he forces me to lie down in green pastures.

An American traveling in Syria became acquainted with a shepherd. Each morning, he noticed the shepherd carrying food to the sheep. The traveler followed him one morning and found that he was taking the food to one sheep that had a broken leg. As he looked at the animal, he said to the shepherd. "How did the sheep break its leg? Did it meet with an accident—fall into a hole, or did some animal break the leg?" "No," said the shepherd, "I broke this sheep's leg myself." "You broke it yourself?" queried the surprised traveler. "Yes. You see, this is a wayward sheep; it would not stay with the flock, but would lead the other sheep astray. Then it would not let me get near it. I could not approach it, and so I had to break the sheep's leg that it might allow me, day by day, to feed it. In doing this, it will get to know me as its shepherd, trust me as its guide, and keep with the flock." —Robert Boyd Munger, in **What Jesus Says**, (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

RECKON ON GOD

Reckon on God to do His part;
Reckon on God with all your heart;
Reckon on Him to give you pow'r
Over temptation hour by hour.
Reckon on Him Who cannot fail;
Reckon on Him Who must prevail;
This is the path Faith's conq'rors trod,
Who reckoned upon a faithful God.

—Mary Fraser.

JESUS ADVISED US to reckon on God's faithfulness (Mark 11:22-24). Abraham counted on God (Rom. 4:3). Samuel's mother counted on God, and "was no more sad" (1 Sam. 1:18). The nobleman was satisfied with the Saviour's assurance (John 4:50). Paul, counting upon assurance from God, was able to inspire confidence in God for others (Acts 27:25, 34). Naomi counted on God's care for Ruth (Ruth 2:20; 3:18). Here is the secret of rest and peace for the human heart (Isaiah 26:3).

We are to reckon on God for forgiveness (Jer. 31:34; Isaiah 44:22; Micah 7:19). To repeatedly ask God to forgive the same former sin would be to cast a slur on His faithfulness. In the washing of the saints' feet we have counted on God to have forgiven the sinner's guilt when we met the conditions for that forgiveness (John 13:10). We reckon on God for absolute forgiveness of confessed sin (1 John 1:9). It behooves us to keep our sins confessed, and to be careful to forgive others who may have sinned against us (Mark 11:25, 26).

When it comes to cares, we are to do the CASTING, and He will do the CARING (1 Peter 5:7). When it comes to praying, we believingly hand a matter over to God, and though He may keep us waiting, He will not rest until He has answered (Psalm 138:8). We cannot impose our will upon God, but we can trust Him to solve our problems of life (1 John 5:14, 15). We must not worry else we would not be counting on God in our behalf (Eph. 1:13a). Paul counted on God to stand by him in a life work among the Gentiles (Acts 22:21; 9:15). Philip counted on God as he was called to leave a successful revival to travel in a wilderness (John 8:26). When our affairs are committed to God we know that everything is rightly and fully arranged (Psalm 37:5). As a guide, God is unfailing (Prov. 3:6). In the details of life, great and small, you can count on God's guidance (1 Sam. 10:7).

"What can it mean? Is it aught to Him
That the nights are long and the days are dim?
Can He be touched by the griefs I bear,
Which sadden the heart and whiten the hair?
Around His throne are eternal calms,
And strong, glad music of happy psalms,
And bliss unruffled by any strife,
How can He care for my life?

"Oh, wonderful story of deathless love!
Each child is dear to that heart above;
He fights for me when I cannot fight,
He comforts me in the gloom of the night.
He lifts the burden, for He is strong,
He stills the sigh and awakens the song;
The sorrow that bowed me down He bears,
And loves and pardons because He cares.

"Let all who are sad take heart again,
We are not alone in our hour of pain;
Our Father stoops from His throne above
To soothe and quiet us with His love:
He leaves us not when the storm is high,
And we have safety, for He is nigh.
Can it be trouble which He doth share?
Oh, rest in peace, for the Lord does care."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for May 6, 1956

THE CONVERSION OF SAUL

Lesson: Acts 9:1-6, 10-19

THE PSALMIST PRESENTS the testimony of a man who has met God: "He brought me up . . . out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God" (Psalm 40:2-3). This can be the experience of any man or woman who will meet God's terms.

The Bible gives many examples of people who were transformed by the power of Jesus Christ. One such man was Saul of Tarsus. He was a prominent Jew, "of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; . . . a Pharisee" (Phil. 3:5). In spite of this, he was also a man out of harmony with God's plan and program.

If it could ever be said that a person was **sincere**, but **wrong**, this was true of Saul. It is true of many people today. Sincerity is wonderful—but it is not enough! Solomon correctly says: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12). If you are attempting to gain heaven by any way other than through the Lord Jesus Christ, you will be sadly disillusioned. Speaking of Jesus Christ, Peter said: "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

"Breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord," Saul, "went unto the high priest, and desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem."

In all this, Saul was very "zealous toward God" (Acts 22:3). He thought he was doing God's will. It was not until after his conversion that he realized he was opposing God.

Saul's conversion was complete. Notice the necessary steps before a man can be truly changed and made a new creation in Christ Jesus.

First, Saul heard from heaven. "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" No man can come unto Christ except he be first drawn by the Father. In John 6:44, Jesus said: "No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me, draw him."

Secondly, there must be a personal response to the call of God. "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" It is not enough to have God speak, if we do not respond in obedience to His voice.

After Saul was converted on the Damascus Road he was called and commissioned of God for service.

This proper order is not always followed. Some preachers, and other workers, attempt to serve God before they have surrendered their lives to Him. God seeks for vessels of "honour, sanctified, and meet for the Master's use, and prepared unto every good work" (II Tim. 2:21).

God had a definite plan for Saul's life. His name was to be changed to Paul. God had told His servant Ananias: "He is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for My name's sake" (Acts 9:15-16).

We cannot all be an Apostle Paul. Neither can we all experience a blinding light from heaven at our conversion. Nor will our commission be the same. **However, we can all experience the transforming power of the Gospel in our lives; we can experience the reality of truly being turned from sin unto God; and we can seek for God's perfect will in our lives, and for our place of service in His vineyard!**

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

MAY OFFERING TIME

THE TIME IS ROLLING AROUND AGAIN, and I am wondering how many of us are getting ready for it? The time, I mean, when the general offering for supporting Brethren Youth will be lifted. We depend heavily upon this offering from you, and we trust you completely to support the cause of Brethren Youth, which, believe it or not, directly affects you and your church.

HOW IT WILL HELP

Some individuals ask such questions as, "What is Brethren Youth doing for our local church?" "What about the times when B. Y. has failed to get out youth materials, or the times when they were late in what they did produce?" We are not going to avoid these questions, for to do so would be like the grocer who keeps getting calls for a certain brand of foods but never stocks them, then when his customers leave and shop elsewhere he wonders why they did that to him. We believe and know that such questions are legitimate.

However, if you will notice the demand is that the national organization do all of the serving and meeting certain requirements. Remember that if the grocer is new in the neighborhood he might have to receive a certain amount of patronage before he has the money to stock the goods called for. So is Brethren Youth. We need more patronage in the form of general support before we can produce the desired materials and program. To date we have been left on the short end of the horn. This is **not** complaining—it is fact. Brethren Youth has been supplying materials **free** for several years by begging the free help and time of others to produce these materials. Consequently when some one of these individuals fail, or find it impossible to come through, what are we to say? We cannot continue year after year to draw their blood and say "Thank you."

Again, by expansion in organization and a few more dollars (three or four hundred per year) we would be able to hire efficient and adequate office help to select, edit and produce materials and suggested programs for local groups. This would also be valuable in tying together Brotherhood and Sisterhood organizations to the Brethren Youth program. JUST ONE GOOD WORKER FOR A FEW DOLLARS A WEEK WOULD TURN THE TIDE! But it cannot be done unless we meet our budget.

The growing work of the youth director demands time and attention. This also increases the expense of operation. **Are we to continue?** Meanwhile, we have suggested a variety of materials from time to time (for which you must pay to receive) from other sources that will adequately meet your needs until your own youth work is standing firmly upon its financial feet. You may

write in for information and we shall be happy to oblige.

REMEMBER YOUR PART

A few weeks ago we mentioned the amount of the usual offering, per capita. We should like to remind you of that figure: our records show less than twenty cents per member has been given annually to the support of the Brethren Youth work (more accurately, about eighteen cents). We repeat: FIFTY CENTS PER MEMBER WOULD GIVE BRETHREN YOUTH A TREMENDOUS LIFT!

This offering is to be lifted in May, the 20th to be specific. Where you have been giving less, can we count on you to give fifty cents? Do it, and watch B. Y. go!

MAY 20, YOUTH DAY

The **third Sunday of May each year** has been designated as NATIONAL BRETHREN YOUTH DAY. Make use of your young people on that day in church. One of the national goals for B. Y. is a public service. If you cannot arrange for this service on May 20, then try to make some other Sunday in May this year. BRETHREN YOUTH ARE MOVING FORWARD.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

GOSHEN, INDIANA. The Goshen Church has secured the services of Richard Allison as Assistant Pastor for the summer months. "Dick" is a Seminarian at Ashland and comes from Milledgeville, Illinois; his family consists of his wife and two boys. The Allisons will live on the field in a home provided by the Goshen Church.

FLORA, INDIANA. Brother C. A. Stewart notes that the Flora ministers have been filling the pulpit of the local Methodist church on Sunday mornings at the 9:30 hour since the death of their pastor. Brother Stewart's turn was on April 22nd. This arrangement is to continue until June.

OAKVILLE, INDIANA. Guest speaker on April 15th was Rev. Ralph Miller, a long time friend of the pastor and wife.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. The B. Y. C. will be in charge of the evening service on April 29th, with Rolf Stolpner as speaker.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Brother H. Francis Berkshire has been called to serve as pastor for another year. Brother Berkshire notes that he will begin his 4th year in October with the Lanark Brethren.

The Boys' Brotherhood was in charge of the morning service on April 15th.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. The Tucson church has set aside one Sunday each month for a special "Cash Day" offering for the purpose of more rapidly paying off the indebtedness on their new S. S. addition. April 22nd was the first of these special days.

As of the early part of April, there was about $4,400.00 yet due on the new addition. From the Tucson bulletin we quote, "Evidences of growth indicate that more room may be needed and should hasten our payments of present debt."

COMING EVENTS

NOTICE

CAMBRIA COUNTY BRETHREN CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR RALLY

Tuesday, May 1, 1956—7:30 D. S. T.

Second Brethren Church, Johnstown, Penna.

Speakers—Bob and Bea Bischof

Mission offering goal.....$100.00

ALL AREA BRETHREN INVITED

Walter C. Wertz, President,
C. C. B. C. E. Union.

LAYMEN'S RALLY
NORTHEASTERN OHIO DISTRICT

May 18th

Jons Park Pavilion—Mansfield, Ohio

Registration 6:30; Supper 7:00 E. S. T.

Important Business

Missionary Robert Bischof, Speaker

Reservations should be in by May 11th. Send to:
Raymond Metcalf,
489 Davidson St.,
Mansfield, Ohio.

The Southern Indiana District Laymen will be host to the Northern Indiana District in a joint meeting to be held at the Brethren Church in North Manchester, Indiana, Monday Evening, May 21st, 1956.

We especially urge a good attendance from all churches. A number of churches are becoming very lax in their Layman's Organization, so please come and enjoy a good time and receive a real blessing. A fine program will be in store for you.

Supper hour 6:00 to 7:30 prevailing time. Please send reservations to the North Manchester church, Please.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

WHAT DO WE SEE When we lift up our eyes? Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes and look unto the fields for they are white already to harvest" John 4:35. He would have us see a sin-sick world; a world of people who need Him. Christ would have us see suffering humanity whom we can help. His eyes were open to the needs of others and if we are truly following Him, our eyes will be open too, to their needs.

Jesus said the fields are white to harvest. We need not wait; they are waiting for us. Someone has sown the seed; it has been watered and tended and now the harvest is ready. What are we waiting for?

What happens when we lift up our hearts and pray?

Maybe we are not harvesting because we are not praying. Prayer, to be effective, must make us willing to be sacrificial. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" James 5:16. We certainly will never be faithful witnesses and soul winners without being concerned enough about the unsaved to pray for them. Do our hearts yearn for the unsaved?

What happens when we lift up our hands and give?

How much do you say you love the Lord? By your giving, how much do you prove you love Him? How much should you give?

"Give as you would if an angel awaited your gift at the door.

Give as you would if tomorrow found you where giving is o'er.

Give as you would to the Master if you met His loving look.

Give as you would of your substance if His Hand the offering took."

Give, too, as if you were the one receiving it instead of giving it.

Where would you go if you obeyed His command to lift up your feet and go?

Can you honestly sing "I'll go where You want me to go?" No excuses are accepted for staying at home. We are to go! Where? That is a matter between you and your Lord but "lift up your feet and go" Matt. 28:19, 20.

The challenge of the hour is to lift up our eyes and look unto the harvest, then lift up our hearts and pray that we may lift our hands and give and lift up our feet and go.

Margaret E. Lowery,

Krypton, Ky.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

(Continued from Page 6)

the junior primary school after a year or two of training in the outvillage school. The pupils who go on with their education may well become the future leaders of the church in Nigeria as well as leaders in their community and perhaps in their government.

A total of 177 attend the classes for adults in these twenty-four villages. This is the only formal education these adults will have as they are too old to enter junior primary schools.

Each of the teachers holds Sunday church services in his village. Some of them have as many as three or four services each week. The combined attendance in church on a Sunday morning in these twenty-four villages would be more than 2,080.

In the first half of 1955, about fifty people in these villages took the covenant. This means that they are now preparing for baptism. They are studying in classes for church membership, learning about Christianity, and what it means to be a Christian. They are also trying to live new lives, such as a Christian should live. Nearly 100 people have been baptized. What a challenge our mission in Nigeria presents to the new missionary. God bless the witness of classes in religious instruction—the C. R. I's.—from the **Gospel Messenger.**

Wedding Announcement

FUNK-GRUMBLING. Saturday, March 24, 1956, 7:30 P. M. the Garber Memorial Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio, was the scene of the wedding of Miss Janet Funk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Funk, Jr., 420 E. Liberty Street, Ashland, and Mr. Ronald Grumbling, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Grumbling, 185 Chandler Ave., Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The ceremony was performed by the pastor of the Church.

H. William Fells, Pastor.

Laid to Rest

KING. Saturday, March 31, 1956, Mrs. Maggie B. King was laid to rest in the family plot beside her husband at Utica, Ohio. She was the daughter of Samuel and Fannie Friel, born July 31, 1880 and departed this life March 28, 1956, after a short illness at the Samaritan Hospital, Ashland, Ohio. She was the first member of the Garber Memorial Brethren Church and the Woman's Missionary Society of same to be called away. The pastor of the church officiated at the services.

H. William Fells, Pastor.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
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FUN-TO-PLAY

Bible Games

BOXED BIBLE GAMES

Fun With Lotto A Bible Game
By Mae Smith. This game may be played by as many as 16 people at once, plus a "caller" who will call off the name of various Bible characters while the players place symbols on corresponding cards. The player who first fills his card is the winner. Boxed, $1.00

Bible Zoo Game
By B. DeFrees Brien. A Fun Game in Rhyme. Entertaining and educational verse riddles about Bible animals. For all ages. Boxed, 60¢

Who Am I?
By B. DeFrees Brien. Clever, instructive Bible quizzes. Boxed, 60¢

Verse Riddles from the Bible
Helps all ages to become familiar with Bible characters and outstanding events. Boxed, 60¢

Lemon's Bible Game
12 fascinating Bible games in one set of 120 cards! You can play the following:

Bible Quiz	*Bible Treasures*
Bible Heroes	*Bible Groupings*
Bible Cities	*Bible Puzzles*
Bible Fauna	*Bible Countries*
Bible Books	*Bible Flora*
Kings-Chronicles	*Bible Heroines*

Boxed, $1.00

"What Am I?" Bible Game
By B. DeFrees Brien. A fascinating quiz game. Boxed, 60¢

Bible Authors
Played similar to popular "Authors Game." Learn Bible books. Boxed, 60¢

Bible Boys
An intriguing question and answer game. Boxed, 60¢

TRAV-E-LOG BIBLE GAMES

By "Uncle Jim" Turnbull

Trav-E-Log of Christ
Includes beautiful full-color playing board vividly portraying the events in the life of Christ, 300 Gospel quiz slips, 4 pawns and complete, easy-to-understand directions.
Regular Edition, Boxed, 75¢
Deluxe Edition (with extra heavy playing board), Boxed, $1.00

Bible Trav-E-Log
(*Old Testament*) Includes a beautiful full-color playing board, 300 quiz slips, 4 pawns and complete, easy-to-understand directions. Makes the Old Testament interesting and understandable.
Regular Edition, Boxed, 75¢
Deluxe Edition (with extra heavy playing board), Boxed, $1.00

Junior Trav-E-Log of Christ
Same as TRAV-E-LOG OF CHRIST above, but simplified and designed for boys and girls. Includes playing board, quiz slips, pawns and directions. Boxed, 50¢

Junior Bible Trav-E-Log
(*Old Testament*) Same as BIBLE TRAV-E-LOG described above, but simplified and completely revised for boys and girls. Boxed, 50¢

TREASURE TRAILS BIBLE GAME

By N. A. Woychuk

An exciting, colorful, educational, intriguing board game which traces chronologically the story of the Bible. Included are a beautiful full-color reinforced playing board, consequence cards and Scripture memorizing cards. From 2 to 8 players. Enjoyable and educational. Boxed, $3.95

Add 15¢ per game for postage and packing.

Order from The Brethren Publishing Company

Ashland, Ohio.

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING ISSUE

THE TREASURE OF THE CHURCH

VOL. LXXVIII May 5, 1956 No. 18

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Baptismal services were held on April 15th. Brother William Keeling reports that ten were received into the church as a result of the meetings with Brother D. C. White, with others who could not be at the scheduled baptism, to be received at a later baptism.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Brother Elmer M. Keck notes that at a recent special church business meeting he was given a call for another year as pastor of the Valley Church.

Sunday School and Church attendances of 76 and 78 respectively, were noted on a recent Sunday.

GRATIS, OHIO. From the Gratis bulletin we learn that 45 laymen were present at the Miami Valley Laymen's Rally held in the West Alexandria Church on April 16th.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Dean Delbert B. Flora, of Ashland Seminary, was guest speaker on April 29th, at both morning and evening services.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. From Brother Henry Bates' bulletin we learn that Brother C. C. Grisso entered the Wabash Hospital for observation on Friday evening, April 20th. Brother Bates pens a note that Brother Grisso wasn't sure Saturday evening whether an operation would be necessary or not. (Let us remember this our brother and servant in prayer. Ed.)

The monthly Fellowship Hour was held following the evening service on April 15th. Brother Bob Bischof, speaker at the morning public service of the Woman's Missionary Societies, and also speaker at the evening service, was guest of honor.

The Mother-Daughter Banquet was a scheduled event of May 2nd, in the E. U. B. Church.

ELKHART, INDIANA. A "Thank You" note comes from Mrs. Robert Higgins for the many cards and prayers extended her way during her hospitalization. She underwent surgery on March 30th, at Elkhart General Hospital. As of April 18th, Brother Higgins reports that Sister Higgins is home and was looking forward to attending services, April 22nd.

Brother Higgins notes that "we have received 41 new members since Jan. 1, 1956, on a goal of 55 through the Easter Season, and our Spring Revival which starts tonight (April 18th.")

The Junior Sisterhood Public Program was held the evening of April 8th.

WARSAW, INDIANA. Marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Sisterhood of Mary and Martha Organization, a special Birthday Party celebration was

(Continued on Page 19)

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 19)

NOTICE TO THE BRETHREN IN AND AROUND PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

THE BRETHREN will hold their 2nd Fellowship meeting with a picnic—Sunday, May 13th, at 5:00 P. M. (Mother's Day). The picnic will be at Tempe City Park at 1st and Mill on the west edge of the city of Tempe.

A group of Tucson Brethren will attend for inspiration and encouragement. All Brethren and friends of that area are cordially invited.

ANY BRETHREN—ANYWHERE—knowing of Brethren in that area are urged to either notify them of this gathering, or write at once to: Rev. Vernon Grisso, 115 N. Bryant Ave., Tucson, Arizona, giving name and address of the same.

Vernon Grisso.

The Editor's Pulpit

Brethren Youth Offering

THE BRETHREN YOUTH Organization in the Brethren Church is a going concern. It has been for a number of years, with remarkable results, and it shall continue to be. Why? Because there are those who are leaders in the work and those interested in the work who believe in it, and who are willing to devote their time and energies to its work.

The biggest difficulty faced by the Brethren Youth Organization has been its lack of proper financing. As a member of the former Christian

(Continued on Page 17)

ELDER WILLIS E. RONK

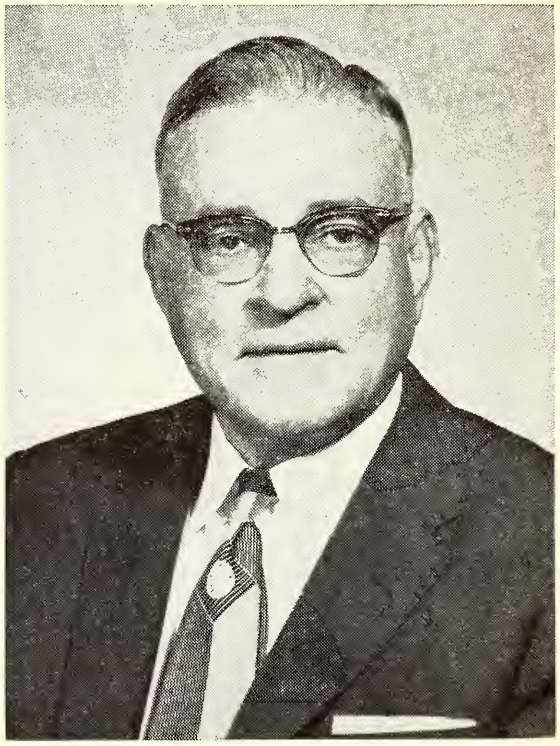
November 15, 1891 — April 24, 1956

OUR HEARTS WERE SADDENED Tuesday evening, April 24th, in learning the news of the passing of Brother WILLIS E. RONK, of Ashland. Brother Ronk, so well known to all Brethren, had been ill for about two weeks, having taken ill during the Pastor's Conference, April 10-12.

Brother Ronk was born, the son of David and Susan Tellar Ronk, at Turlock, Calif., on Nov. 15, 1891. He was married to Helen Brandenburg, on April 7, 1920, who survives him. Other survivors include a daughter, Mrs. John D. Manville, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; two sons, Ivan E., of Goshen, Ind., and Robert T., of the armed forces in France; two grandchildren, three brothers, Elder George T., of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Elder Albert T., of Waterloo, Iowa, and Kenneth R., Santa Cruz, California.

Brother Ronk, his life, his work, his interest, were all so intertwined with the life of the Brethren Church, that the two are practically synonymous. He lived in Ashland for ten years, serving part of the time as pastor of the Park Street Brethren Church, and part of the time as Dean of Ashland Theological Seminary; he was President of the Publication Board, and it was during his term of office that the present Publication Building was conceived and erected, a tribute to his foresight and good judgment. Serving some years in pastorates, he was recalled to Ashland last year to serve on the Ashland Seminary Faculty. At the time of his death he was also serving as President of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and as a member of the new Co-Ordinating Planning Committee of General Conference.

Our heartfelt sympathies and prayers go to the loved ones who survive. At a later date, we plan to devote sufficient space in an issue of the Evangelist to, in a small measure, properly evaluate the life of this our dear Brother, and what he has meant to us.



Brother Ronk has lived his life well, and has served faithfully to the end; now it is his to enjoy the full measure of eternal life in the presence of the Lord whose he was and whom he served. This full assurance of eternal life is our comfort and our hope.

Funeral services were conducted in the Park Street Brethren Church on Friday morning, April 27th, in charge of Dean Delbert B. Flora, of Ashland Theological Seminary, assisted by Elder Clarence Fairbanks, pastor of the Church. Burial at Goshen, Indiana.—W. S. B.

TO ALL BRETHREN:

We present a number of messages written by the members of the National Brethren Youth Board to inform you of the purpose and the importance of the Brethren Youth work. We trust that by reading these messages you will better understand the work of Brethren Youth, and you will feel the responsibility of giving to keep the work going. Help Brethren Youth KEEP ON KEEPING ON.— Clarence Stogsdill.

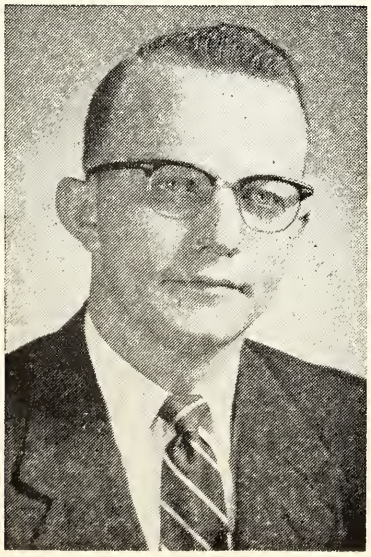
BRETHREN YOUTH AND BROTHERHOOD

REV. LYLE LICHTENBERGER
Pastor, Berlin, Pennsylvania

ARTICLE I of the Constitution of the Young Men and Boys Brotherhood of the Brethren Church reads: "The object of this organization shall be to promote among the young men and boys of the Brethren Church planned Bible Study, missionary zeal, and inspiration to walk in the Spirit and bear the 'fruit of the Spirit' which is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." (Gal. 5: 22, 23.)

The problem which is set before us in this topic is to see whether or not the Brethren Youth Organization is able to contribute to the fulfilling of this purpose in the local church.

We would ask you to keep in mind that the author of this topic is somewhat new in Brotherhood work. He has been in the ministry but six years and vitally interested in Brotherhood but three of the six years. He is now the advisor for two organizations, Junior and Senior, which have a total membership of approximately thirty-five.



Therefore the observations which he shall make should not be taken in any way as being critical of the work but merely as observations made by one who needs help with his own boys. One of the greatest problems which we saw from afar was that the greatest burden for the work with the boys was carried on the backs of too few men. These men deserve the heartfelt thanks of each member of our denomination, whether they now have a Brotherhood or not, for keeping the fire alive when others would put it out. These men were both ministers and laymen who felt the mission "It is better to build boys than to mend men."

One of these leaders recently told me that although he has worked with boys for almost thirty years there has never been a harder time to accomplish its purpose than today. Today we have too much competition from the community and the schools. Today they have television, hot rods, ball games, and other things. The boys just don't have time and are just not interested. It is true that if you feed them at each meeting—make your devotions short, take them on picnics, let them play ball—they will be there. But for this "Bible stuff" they just don't have time. No longer can we say that a Sunday School boy is never a juvenile delinquent. Recently one of our large eastern cities reported that approximately eighty per cent of the juveniles who were in Juvenile Court in 1955 said they were actively attending Sunday School. Many churches have thrown up their hands in horror and quit their youth work altogether. The excuse for this action has usually been "you can't do anything with them," while it should be "we don't want to take the **time** to **work out** the problem." The problem is not a small one. There is no one, two or even three satisfactory answers. The problem is too

complex for one or two people to solve, if it can be solved. Don't ever forget the future of the Brethren Church still rests in its youth and primarily upon the boys. The Hebrew people never looked upon the leading of their boys as a thing for their leisure time or a job for the Priest or the Rabbi but it was an obligation of the parent.

They were as obedient to God's commands to teach their children God's ways as they were to any other part of the law. This was the strength of the Israelites—it kept them together. It kept them true. Every child knew the law and when the people did not teach it because they "just didn't have time," judgment fell.

The promise of God is still true—"Bring up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." Let's face it Brethren, this promise is also a threat. If you don't bring him up in the ways of the Lord you can hardly expect him to walk in them. I have never been able to read that promise as if it were for the home alone. It is just as basically true for the Church.

Now how is Brethren Youth assisting in answering this problem? First of all, I think the Brethren Youth Board through its magazine, its Youth Director, and its conference programs is providing a means by which our boys are made aware of the over-all work of the church. They are kept in touch with mission work and workers. They know there are other boys who are working for the cause of the kingdom. They have the privilege of fellowshipping with other boys who are struggling against great odds to achieve their spiritual goals.

There are a number of things I would like to see achieved for the sake of our boys within the framework of our Board. First and foremost I would like to see a committee from the Brotherhood Board as well as from the Brethren Youth Board meet to consider the over-all program of our boys' work. The program as it now stands is excellent but it needs expansion. As one minister recently said, "It needs teeth in it." It is no longer playing second fiddle in the lives of our boys: it is playing seventh or eighth, when with as great a program and purpose as it has it should be second to none. It will take time—a lot of it. But every day lost means another boy lost. If our boys are lost today, tomorrow may not be ours.

SISTERHOOD AND BRETHREN YOUTH

ELAINE McDANIEL
President, National Sisterhood

The horizon of Sisterhood and youth work in the church extends to the far corners of the world. In this age of travel, we no longer limit our activities to our local groups, but our interests and activities extend to those in other countries and far lands. The young person today is not so far different than young people of times past in heart and soul, but they differ mostly in knowledge. The opportunities can be used for good or evil. Far too many branch out in selfish and indifferent avenues. These are not the ones we wish to consider.

THE AGE WE LIVE IN threatens world wide catastrophe, but it likewise holds unexpected hope and unexampled promise. The shadows that now fall across our path measure the height we still have to climb.

The Brethren Church holds great possibilities in the youth of their church. Too often we fail to realize this and crush the very bud that might flower into great and lasting beauty.

Our nation recognizes the value of youth. They know that they will come through victoriously if they are given the necessary equipment and responsibilities. It is then up to our church to encourage and place confidence into the youth.

Too often the church leaders have a fear of

placing confidence in the youth of the church. True, the youth need directing and guidance by those of experience and devotion; but youth have "life" and "ideas" to add to the program of the church.

The Brethren Youth program along with the Sisterhood organization gives added opportunities for the young people of the church to express their ways of Christian living.

I feel that greater emphasis should be placed on these. Our nation does not place our young men in active duty until they have gone through a thorough training program. Yet the church often expects our young people to assume leadership in the church with very little or no training. In many cases when they do not meet up to the expectations, they are severely criticized. If our church expects to advance to great heights in the work of our Lord, we must more definitely back the work of our Brethren Youth and Sisterhood. There must be a unity in efforts. All working for one common cause, "that the Lord Jesus be lifted up, that His Name be made known to all peoples of the earth, and that all men crown Him as their King and Lord."

Many young people of the church have talents that are not used. Many are willing and anxious to work if they knew what to do. The "world" plans all types of activities to draw attention and use the time of our youth. Should not the church spend some time to attract the youth toward the church?

Many of our young people are not wage earners. They are still in the dependent years of their life, as far as finances are concerned. Surely the church should not let the program of the Brethren Youth or Sisterhood fall down because they can not finance their programs. We should all be praying that the Brethren Youth and Sisterhood may always carry their banners high.

BRETHREN YOUTH AND MISSION PROJECTS

MARGARET E. LOWERY
Missionary, Krypton, Kentucky

"Be ye doers of the WORD, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." James 1:22.

WHEN JESUS APPEARED unto Saul on the way to Damascus, Saul's first question was, "What wilt Thou have me to do?" God's answer was sent through Ananias—"I will show him how great things he must do." Acts 9:16. God who was able to change Saul the persecutor into Paul the preacher and greatest missionary the world has ever known can do the same with each of us, if we but allow Him to show us how great things we must do. As Brethren Youth we cannot be truly serving Him unless our duty is single-eyed service unto Him. Col. 3:17; Joshua 24:15. We must be wholeheartedly sincere in all our endeavors. Proverbs 16:5. Then we will be able to find abundant opportunities for missionary activities.

Brethren Youth in thinking of mission projects must be aware of the three aspects of giving. Christian giving involves **SELF, SUBSTANCE** and **SERVICE.** All such giving is founded upon a complete commitment to Jesus and His way of life.

God picks the very choicest to be His representatives. Each time He calls a person to go out to preach He calls him from a busy life. God does not call every Christian to go to some foreign land to proclaim the Gospel, but He does call everyone to **SHARE** in the great business of spreading the Gospel throughout the world. Each one has his or her definite task, whether here at home or abroad.

SELF—When it comes to the actual giving, it is not money first of all, but time and talents. Missionaries are not the only ones who devote their lives to the preaching of the Gospel. The redemption of the world is in the hands and hearts and lives of all who have caught the spirit of Jesus, and who are teaching Him in an understandable way to men and women in their own language, who are teaching Him through personalities that are wholesome and pure, and who are trying their utmost and giving their best energies to make this a better world in which to live. Not by the spectacular work of a few geniuses and strong leaders will the Kingdom be built, but by the God-empowered quiet, humble living of the rank and file of Christians, the consecrated day-by-day living that never makes headlines. All God wants YOU to do is take yourself away, your plans and ambitions, your idiosyncrasies, your temper and critical and sensitive attitude and let the light of Jesus shine forth in your life. Then you will be giving the first and best thing to Christ—**SELF.**

SUBSTANCE—Christ taught that it is more blessed to give than to receive. The one who gives not only helps others, but helps himself as well. There is a growth of the soul as a result of sharing what we have with others. Our giving is to be individual, as the Lord prospers; not grudgingly, nor of compulsion or necessity; cheerful, an expression of our love, as we purpose in our heart. If every Brethren youth lived up to Christ's teachings in this matter of giving of substance, our Missionary Board would have no financial worries and their program would be constantly expanding. The S. M. M. and Brotherhood goals would be reached without difficulty, too. The National Brethren Youth organization could launch forth in an enlarged program of training and recruiting of youth for Christian service.

SERVICE—The immediate task of the Christians today is that of witnessing for Christ. The sphere of this witnessing is to be universal. Acts 1:8—"In Jerusalem (city or home evangelization), and in all Judea and Samaria (home missions), and unto the uttermost parts of the earth (foreign missions)." Christian living is a daring struggle and a great adventure. It makes demands which call for strong loyalty, but there are endless opportunities for fulfilling the Great Commission.

The National Brethren Youth organization was organized to strengthen the youth interests and activities of the Brethren Church. It supports and lends encouragement to the Brotherhood and Sisterhood organizations and promotes the Sunday night youth groups. The special mission projects promoted by Brethren Youth each year as a united youth activity should in no way be the main missionary enterprise of Brethren young people. There needs to be a reevaluation of thinking and a definite commitment of SELF—SUBSTANCE—SERVICE by all Brethren youth and then Brethren missions will prosper. We will then see how great things we can do!

Be sure to read a special article,

"I'M STILL IN BRETHREN YOUTH"

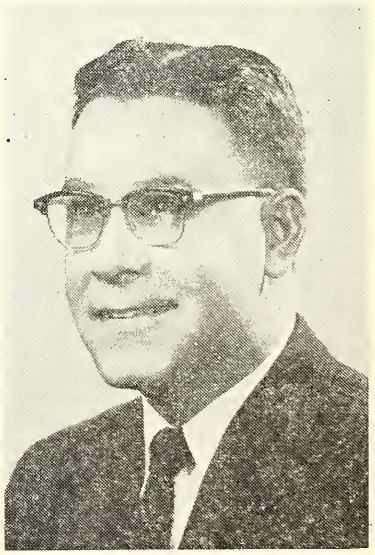
by National Brethren Youth Director

REV. CLARENCE STOGSDILL

It appears on the

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADER'S page

This week, page eighteen



YOU NEED BRETHREN YOUTH—BRETHREN YOUTH NEEDS YOU

REV. VIRGIL E. MEYER
President, Brethren Youth Board

RECENTLY much has been written and many statistics given to bring to our attention the ever-increasing shortage of ministers. This is equally true of Catholics and Protestants. It is affecting every denomination. There has been and will be a large increase in church membership, and trained leadership is in no way keeping up with the demand. True indeed are the words of Christ, when He said, "The harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few."

Now our own denomination is small and we need particularly to keep uppermost in mind the need for trained and consecrated leaders. And this largely is the reason why you need Brethren Youth. Through Brethren Youth work in the local congregations as well as denominationally, we have a means of reaching our young people and inspiring them with a desire to be of service. We have an opportunity to recruit them for life work, not only in the ministry and mission field, but also as active, working members of a congregation. Brethren Youth had its origin in this need. It was not started to inflict a new organization upon the church. It was not started to replace the Sisterhood and Brotherhood organizations, but rather to take up where they leave off. It was started to fulfill a need in the lives of our young people, and in a larger sense, a need of the Brethren Church as a whole. Yes, you need Brethren Youth and your need of it is as big as your hope for the future of the Brethren Church.

It follows that just as the church needs Brethren Youth, so Brethren Youth needs the church. Plans for expanding the work of Brethren Youth into each local congregation have been formulated by the Youth Board. The new Youth Director, Rev. Phil Lersch, will be available and prepared to come into each church. He will spend several days with the pastor or officials of the church to examine the youth program and help to make it more effective. There are plans to help train youth leaders or sponsors in each district. A very important part of the work that our Youth Director does is counselling with Brethren students on the campus at Ashland College. He also directs the National Youth Conference. It is surely true that all of this work needs to be done, but it can only be done if we all work and plan and pray together. Brethren Youth needs **you** desperately. It needs your patience and tolerance, your constructive criticism and your prayers. With this expanded program, there will also be a greater need for your financial support. Every Brethren Church needs this program and the program needs the full support of every Brethren Church.

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1956
Goal—$8,500.00

BRETHREN YOUTH AND OTHER YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

REV. HENRY BATES

Pastor, North Manchester, Indiana

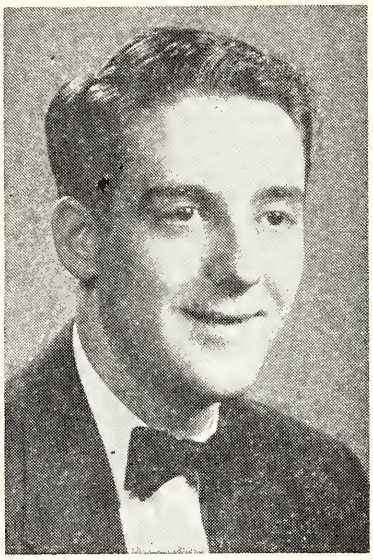
A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO, when the Brethren Youth Board and the work of the Brethren Youth Board were first organized the basic purpose was that of coordinating the work and programs of the various youth organizations already in existence in the Brethren Church. The Boys' Brotherhood, the Sisterhood of Mary and Martha, Signal Lights, and Christian Endeavor were the four major youth organizations and activities in our denomination at that time. It was felt by many that some centralizing body was needed to help to coordinate the programs of these various groups; to provide leadership instruction for the leaders of the various organizations; and to enlarge the field of influence of Brethren young people as a whole. As a result of this feeling on the part of several leaders in the church and among our young people, the Brethren Youth Board was organized. The Board is comprised of men and women who represent the various youth organizations and who are elected to the Board by their respective groups. Thus, the Brethren Youth Board is not merely another board of the church—it is a composite of a number of denominational boards. What is true of the Brethren Youth Board is likewise true of Brethren Youth as a movement! Brethren Youth is not **another** organization within the church along with Brotherhood, Sisterhood, etc., but rather, Brethren Youth **is** Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Sunday evening youth groups, etc. One of the purposes of Brethren Youth is that of expanding the offerings which the church makes to her young people. Thus, instead of having just the opportunity of attending Brotherhood once a month, or Sisterhood once a month, Brethren young people have opportunity to get together every week in many instances at Sunday evening youth meetings, and periodically with young people from all over the various districts in their Brethren Youth Rallies.

Your Brethren Youth Board is anxious that you recognize this fact—that Brethren Youth is not running competition with our other youth organizations, but rather is attempting to help those organizations and to complement them. There have been times, perhaps, when some folks have had occasion to wonder whether or not this purpose was being accomplished, but fundamentally this is the purpose of your Youth Board. It is hoped that in the years since its inception the Brethren Youth movement has now aroused sufficient interest in our youth program as a whole that more and more it will be possible to branch out and to help the various youth organizations which collectively compose Brethren Youth. Thus, it is the vision of **some** of your Youth Board members at least, that within the next few months our Brethren Youth Director will be in a position to visit a number of our churches, to observe some of the youth activities in those churches and to offer suggestions, recommendations, etc. to the youth leaders in those churches.

It is also the hope of the Brethren Youth Board that it will be possible to sponsor "Youth Leaders' Conferences," either in local churches or in districts, whereby the leaders and advisors of Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Sunday evening youth groups, etc. will be able to gather together for an entire day or possibly for several evenings and to discuss the different aspects, problems, needs and programs of the represented youth organizations. How soon this type of a program will be put into effect, and just how extensive it will be, depends a great deal upon the support which the churches give to the Brethren Youth Board—both in the giving to the Brethren Youth Offering this month, and also in giving the Brethren Youth Director an opportunity to come into the churches and to share with the local youth leaders his suggestions and knowledge in this area of church extension.

MY PLACE IN BRETHREN YOUTH

MARLIN McCANN
A Student at Ashland College



SOMETIME during our earlier years in life, we are faced with the problem of our place in life. That may be narrowed down to what is my place in the Brethren Church. That question may still be narrowed down to just what is my place in my own age group, Brethren Youth. May I say right off hand that each and every single one of us has a place in Brethren Youth. It may be a small place or it may be a large place, but we still have a place. Now then, just what is that place?

My place and your place in Brethren Youth is to support it. Now you may ask yourself, "How can I support it?" I am only one single person. One way in which you can support Brethren Youth is to attend its meetings. High school days and college days are very busy ones for us young persons, and we think that we don't have time for the church and the youth groups, but without you, there would not be any youth groups or churches. We as young people are not only going to become the leaders of tomorrow, but we are leaders of today in a sense. The Brethren Youth programs and C. E. programs are set up in such a way that they give valuable information as to the training of youth in leadership. We have a chance to participate and to lead in these programs so that we will know how to carry on the church business of tomorrow.

By attending the C. E. meetings we also show to the older people in the church, that we are interested in being good youth. They in turn will show an interest in us and will help to support our group and its work and projects. But, let's not let them do all the work and supporting. It is still our place in Brethren Youth to support it. This year we are trying to raise over $6,000 for our project. I know that it can be done. We went way over our goal last year. The reason was that we got behind our project and supported it. Many of the youth groups got up different projects to raise money for the national project. I can imagine that they had a good time in doing it. They were working for Brethren Youth, and most important they were working for the Lord. So you can see that my place and your place in Brethren Youth is to help support the National Projects.

Another place you and I have in Brethren Youth is in service for our Lord. As Brethren Young people we should act like Christian young people. We should set an example for our neighbors and friends. Just by the way we act in our everyday lives we can show to others that we are Christians and interested in serving our Lord and Master. Whenever we have a chance, we should witness for Christ and for Brethren Youth. There is nothing to be ashamed of by going to church and C. E. There are opportunities every day and everywhere to witness for Him, and to do service for Him. It is our duty and place to do this for our Lord and for Brethren Youth.

So you see that we all do have a place in Brethren Youth. Our place is in attending meetings and giving support to the projects, both in time and money. Most of all our place in Brethren Youth is to carry on the Lord's work.

BRETHREN YOUTH WARRANTS YOUR SUPPORT

THE FUTURE OF BRETHREN YOUTH

REV. J. D. HAMEL
Pastor, South Bend, Indiana

AGAIN THE BRETHREN CHURCH looks to the future. WHAT ABOUT BRETHREN YOUTH? What is the future? What are the plans? What is the job toward which we roll up our sleeves and to which we look forward, and upon bended knee ask God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to enable us to press on until victory has come?

One of the greatest challenges and opportunities in the work of the Brethren Church in these days is in the field of evangelism among the youth of our Church.

Your Brethren Youth Board's concern for the unreached, clearly highlights the imperative need for the Church to give immediate attention to developing an effective program for WINNING YOUTH.

But who is going to win youth? Who is going to help youth to find a faith in God . . . to discover this knowledge about Jesus, and make a dedication to Him which will change the direction of their whole lives?

I. YOU CAN WIN YOUTH! Our young people face great difficulties and staggering problems. We all believe that Christ can help them through Christian faith to withstand the pressures of our modern living.

We all share in a concern for the many youth who are not reached with the message of Jesus and who do not have a sustaining faith in God.

YOU are the key person in this Brethren Youth Task! You who are parents and teachers of youth; you who are the pastors and counselors of the Brethren Youth Fellowships, you who are the Directors of the youth division and advisors for the program chairmen . . . YOU ARE THE ONES WHO CAN DO THE MOST TO WIN BRETHREN YOUTH FOR CHRIST!

II. YOUTH CAN WIN OTHERS! Christian Youth must make many decisions. They must decide what kind of person they want to become, whom they want to follow, what they want to believe. However, too frequently youth is not confronted with the need for a decision for Christ, for a commitment of life to Him and for becoming a part of the Christian fellowship by joining the Church.

The call of high endeavour, of thrilling adventure for Christ and His truth, of deeply satisfying achievement, and of richest reward to those who are loyal comes to YOUTH through the Church.

The importance of youth evangelism can be stressed in the Brethren Youth sessions where young people can be taught the importance of knowing Christ in a real and vital way themselves and then of sharing Him with others.

III. NATIONAL BRETHREN YOUTH BOARD HELPS TO WIN YOUTH! Your National B. Y. Board can become a greater instrument through which youth is confronted with the need for a decision for the Christian life. Youth does not want an easy religion. They want confident leadership showing them how the Christian life, when lived, brings the fulfilment of the Christian promises.

Your Board realizes the future need of a greater Denominational emphasized youth program. Every young person who becomes a minister, minister's wife, missionary, lay worker, etc., does so because Brethren people have accepted the challenge of Brethren Youth.

For every prayer, encouragement, support, every dollar, the Brethren Church and Work of Christ will proclaim a solid foundation upon which our FUTURE YOUTH WORK CAN REST FOR ETERNITY.

WEIGHED - and found wanting

Rev. Frank W. Garber

"Thou art weighed in the balances, and are found wanting." Daniel 5:27.

WHEN I WAS A BOY I heard a good many sermons on Belshazzar's feast. It was a favorite subject of many evangelists. I am convinced that there are many striking parallels between what transpired in ancient Babylon, and what is going on today, here and elsewhere.

A lot of folks are being weighed in God's balances today, and are found wanting. Every nation is being weighed on the scales of God; what will be the verdict? Our churches, and all church organizations are being weighed on the balances of God. Will they be found wanting? Let us remember that what we do and say in this Conference assembled here in Mulvane, Kansas, is being weighed and recorded in the balance sheets of God. Will we be Found wanting?

WHY WAS BELSHAZZAR FOUND WANTING?

I. The scripture says he did not humble his heart. (Dan. 5:22). He was haughty, he was proud. He was defiant toward God. He had been given one of the greatest object lessons that could come to anyone.

His father, Nebuchadnezzar, had held a position of great power, and all races and nations and folks of every tongue trembled in fear before him. He killed whom he pleased and spared whom he pleased. He raised whom he pleased, and put down whom he pleased. But when his mind became proud, when his spirit became defiant, so that he bore himself haughtily, he was deposed from his throne and was deprived of his glory. He was driven away from human beings; his mind was made like the mind of an animal, and his dwelling was with the beasts. He ate grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dews of heaven until he learned that the most high God rules over the realm of men, and that He sets over it any whom He chooses.

We have many object lessons before us, of what happens to a person who leaves God out, who is defiant and haughty in the sight of God. Yet in spite of our object lessons we go on in our way, doing as we please, seeking our own desire, rather than the will of God.

II. The scriptures say, "He lifted up his voice against heaven. (verse 23). There are a lot of folks lifting up their voices against heaven today. God says specifically, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain," yet the mass of people swear and use vulgar language, and I am sorry to say that some church members blaspheme God in the language they use. "The things that come forth from the mouth proceed from the heart." Whenever we lift up the voice against heaven, there is the hand of God writing on the walls of our hearts, a condemnation that will work our spiritual ruin. We not only speak with the vocal chords, but we speak with the hands and feet, yes, with the entire body—"our daily life." Any wrong deeds of the hands and feet, which is motivated within, is lifting up ourselves against God.

III. The scripture says that he desecrated things sacred. He took the sacred vessels from the temple—"vessels dedicated to the service of God, and he and his wives and concubines, princes and coherts drank wine out of them and became drunk." He as a ruler, led his people in desecrating things sacred in the sight of God. How much the American people of today are profaning those things held sacred in the sight of God. Grain that should be used for food to feed the hungry, is being used to make whiskey to undermine bodies and distort minds, to make criminals, and to slay innocent men, mothers and children. The hand of God is writing on the walls a sentence upon America and the world for our attitude as to liquor.

It is said that in the nation's capitol, where we need more clear thinking than anywhere else, the people consume the most liquor per capita than any place in the country. Many Americans celebrate our sacred holidays of Christmas, Thanksgiving and Easter, by getting drunk. Can we expect anything other than the hand of God writing on the wall IN LETTERS OF SCARLET?

Then let us think of our natural resources. God put them here for our comfort and our benefit, but consider how the nations of the world are using them. These resources, which God put here to bless mankind, are being used to destroy man—to blow into bits bodies that are sacred, to destroy minds that should be serving God. It is likely that the world will suffer in the years ahead for the way they have misused the resources. God will

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(Delivered at the 1955 Mid-West District Conference at Mulvane, Kansas, in October.)

bring our mis-deeds, our irreverent acts, our lack of appreciation, our desecration of things sacred, into judgment.

IV. Verse 23 says, "He praised the gods of silver, gold, iron, wood and stone," in spite of the command, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Belshazzar made material things his god. His mind was on wealth, luxury, and pleasures. (Do we have any parallels today?) The great multitudes of America today are materialistically minded. Industry is their god. It simply means putting material things ahead of God, worshipping money, position, pleasure and power. The average man puts possessions ahead of God; when he is faced with a decision between principal and possession, he decides in favor of possession. Many Christians are doing the same thing. Paul says in Ist Corinthians 11:30, "For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and many sleep." To what extent are we putting other gods before the true God?

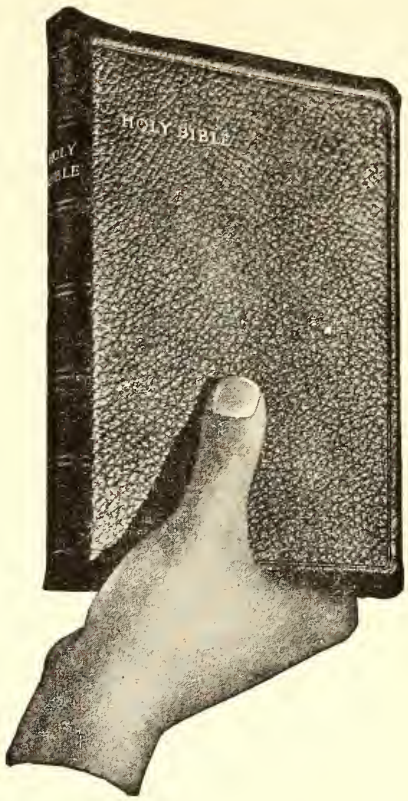
V. He had not glorified God. "And the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified. (Daniel 5:23). That is a powerful statement. Here was a man that was blessed with wealth and power; blessed with opportunity to serve multitudes of people.

What a ruler he might have been if he would have said to himself: "I have seen the handwriting of God in what happened to my father. I know that a man cannot mock God. I will reign in accordance with God's will. I will daily thank God for all that He has done for me. I will glorify God with my whole heart, and strive to influence all my people to serve God. I will use all my privileges to the highest benefit of God and my subjects. I will set an example to surrounding nations. If Belshazzar had said that, the hand of God would have written a different story. If some rulers today would make the same sort of dedication, God would write a different chapter concerning their lives and rule.

If some of us here this afternoon would make that kind of commitment concerning our talents, powers and privileges, concerning this district conference, I am sure that it would meet the approval of the divine God.

Daniel tells Belshazzar, "You have not glorified God who holds in his own power your breath of life and all your destiny." Let us take that to heart! The hand of God is shown in every breath we take, every bite of food we eat, every movement of the body. We come into this world through the hand of God; we live and love and have our being in Him, and we leave this world through the hand of God. He is ever present, rewarding us for our faithfulness, and bringing our sins into judgments. Whatsoever we sow we reap, whether it be good or evil; we can't get away from God.

In one of those great word pictures painted by Jesus, He tells of a rich man who fared sumptuously every day. He ate, drank and made merry. There seemed to be no sense of gratitude to God for His blessings; no sympathy for those who were hungry. He cared so little for others that he allowed a poor beggar to starve to death at his gate. Jesus then carries the picture over into the next life, and show this man in torment. Notice that he has his faculty of mind, feeling, and memory, (alive, fully conscious of the sins of his earthly life). His soul



is bare in the sight of God. He looks across a broad gulf and sees the poor beggar in the arms of Abraham, and he begs Abraham to send Lazarus back to earth to warn his five brothers that they might escape his fate. Abraham tells him that they have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. We have not only Moses and the prophets, but also One who was raised from the dead. If we heed them not, we will continue to be weighed and found wanting.

VI. The hand writing on the wall. Let us get another picture of that exciting drama in the Babylonian banquet hall. In the midst of their drunken revelry, the fingers of a man's hand appeared, writing on the plaster of the royal palace, opposite a lamp stand. The king saw the palm of the hand as it wrote, and the king's color faded; he was paralyzed with fear.

The king called in his enchanters, diviners, astrologers, and made great promises to them of wealth if they could decipher the writing, but none of them could make out the meaning of the writing. Then the king's mother came into the hall, and tells him of Daniel, who can interpret such mysteries.

How characteristic of our day. The mass of folks think they can go on defying God, wasting their heritage, desecrating things sacred, and in some mysterious way, wise men will help them out of the mess they are in. When they dissipate their bodies, they expect medical science to overcome it. When they waste their natural resources, they expect the chemist to get them out of the hole, and everything will come out all right. Silently,

though, the hand of God is writing on the wall of the heart.

Daniel then comes in, and reads the mysterious writing. This is what it says, "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. Thy kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians. Belshazzar has mis-used all the power that God had given, now everything would be taken away, even his life. That is the kind of a story God is writing for all who disobey Him.

The hand of God is writing concerning our life this very moment. The hand of time may write a beautiful book of a life lived for God, a life that was ever a blessing to others. Grant that God is writing that kind of a story on the walls of our hearts this very day.

THE CONCLUDING CHAPTER

Belshazzar lost his kingdom and his life. The Word tells us, that very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king, was killed, and Darius, the Mede, received the kingdom. This is the sad story of a life that defied God—that desecrated things sacred—that was a selfish life. It is the story of one who was not faithful to the privileges and power that God had given him. It is a prophecy of all who leave God out of their lives.

It may mean premature physical death. It often does, but what is far worse, it also means spiritual death in the end. There are many who are following the path of Belshazzar of old. In some measure we are guilty of the same sin—irreverence, selfishness, and failure to glorify God.

The hand of God is writing on our lives today. We are being weighed in the balances of God. Will we be found wanting, or will the great Judge say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord?"

Our hope for this conference here is that the principals advocated, the meditations and actions taken under advisement, may be such that they will be recognized by God as constructive to the furtherance of His cause, not only in the district, but of our faith, at home, nationally, and world-wide.

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

FIRST NEW TESTAMENT IN PORTUGUESE BRAILLE

THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY has announced the publication for the first time of the New Testament in Portuguese Braille. The entire New Testament in seven large volumes is just off the press.

A number of copies are already on the way to Brazil, according to Miss S. Ruth Barrett, the Society's Secretary for Work for the Blind. They will be welcomed there by the Portuguese-speaking Blind, Miss Barrett said.

The Society has also recorded a small volume of Scripture passages from both the Old and the New Testament on five Talking Book records in Portuguese for blind persons unable to read with their finger tips.

Embossed Scriptures have been sent to the Blind around the world in forty-one languages. The American Bible Society recently completed 120 years of service to the Blind.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

GOD KNOWS

God knows, not I, the devious way
  Wherein my faltering feet must tread,
Before, into the light of day,
  My steps from out of this gloom are led;
And since my Lord the path doth see,
  What matter if 'tis hid from me?

God knows, not I, how sweet accord
  Shall grow at length from out this crash
Of earthly discords, which have jarred
  On soul and sense. I hear the clash,
Yet feel and know that on His ear
  Breaks harmony, full, deep, and clear.

God knows, not I, why, when I'd fain
  Have walked in pastures green and fair,
The path He pointed me hath lain
  Through rocky deserts, bleak and bare.
I blindly trust, since 'tis His will;
  This way lies safely, that way ill.

His perfect plan I cannot grasp;
  Yet I can trust Love infinite,
And with my feeble fingers clasp
  The Hand that leads me to the light.
My soul upon His errand goes;
  The end I know not; but God knows.

—Author Unknown.

GOD'S CHILDREN are the beneficiaries of His tenderest care and unfailing mercy (Psalm 103:13). He knows all about each individual's life (Psalm 139:2-4). He is interested in the smallest details of life, and His care extends to those details (Matt. 10:30).

Sometimes we have to experience trouble before we manifest any interest in God's care (Psalm 77:9). Hagar, fleeing from Sarah, was taught that she was the object of God's care (Gen. 16:13). Mothers may forget their children, but God will not forget His children (Isaiah 49:15, 16). The only thing of His children that God forgets is their sins when they are confessed and repented of (Heb. 8:12). The stout-hearted John the Baptist once wavered in faith while in prison (Matt. 11:3). Jesus was not critical of John's weakness (Matt. 11:4-6), because He knew how Satan seeks to discourage our faith (Eph. 6:16).

"The bruised reed He will not break
But strengthen and sustain."

The 91st Psalm teaches that God cares for His people in times of very grave danger. His angel will guard them and deliver them (Psalm 34:7). However, we are to depend upon Him for our needs by ASKING, THANKING, and HONORING Him for His care (Phil. 4:6, 19).

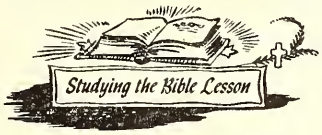
It is a confidential asking (1 John 5:14). Whether imprisoned or forsakened by earthly friends, there is One Who will not let us down (Heb. 13:5).

God knows the trials of old age (Psalm 71:9), and will see His own through the winter of life (Isaiah 41:10).

"In every condition—in sickness, in health,
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth,
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea—
As thy day may demand, shall thy strength ever be.

"E'en down to old age, all My people shall prove,
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still in My bosom be borne."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson



Lesson for May 13, 1956

PREACHING TO THE GENTILES

Lesson: Acts 11:1-18

CHRISTIANS HAVE BEEN guilty of selfishness! In what way? **By refusing to share with the rest of the world the good tidings of great joy they have received through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.** For to be selfish, according to Webster, is to regard "one's own comfort or advantage . . . in disregard, or at the expense, of that of others." Christians may defend themselves by saying: "I am not trying to keep the Gospel to myself; I would be only too glad to know that others share in its benefits." But we have at our disposal the **Message**, the **Means**, and the **Motive**, to hasten the propagation of the Gospel. By our **inactivity**, we manifest our **selfishness** and **indifference**!

In spite of the Great Commission Christ had given to "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," we find the early disciples had limited their witness to the Jews. Yet they should have been keenly aware that, for the most part, the Jewish nation was confined to Palestine. If the Master had intended the Gospel for the Jews only, why the command to go into "all the world?"

A prejudiced and biased spirit dies slowly. We find this true today even in this "enlightened" land of America. Almost one hundred years have passed since Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. After all these years has the Negro achieved his freedom? Hardly! Here is one example. The population of Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, is 63% Negro. Although this is so, **Time Magazine** for October 3, 1955 reports this county has "not one Negro on its rolls of registered voters or on its jury rolls." This is not because the Negroes do not want to vote or serve jury duty, but because one restriction or another prohibits them from doing so!

Shame on any Christian who allows himself to be guilty of racial prejudice! God help the racial bigot in the day of judgment!

But again we say, a prejudiced and biased spirit dies slowly. This was true in Peter's life. In Acts 11, Peter relates to the believers in Jerusalem the incident in Cornelius' house which transpired in chapter 10. Three times the Lord repeated the vision of the sheet and the unclean animals.

"Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate" (10:17).

Arriving at the house of Cornelius, Peter realized here was a man who was seeking to know more about God. But he was a **Gentile**! What should he do? Peter was confused because he had misunderstood the words of Jesus. When Christ appointed His disciples He sent them out to witness, and said: "Go not into the way of the Gentiles: . . . But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matt. 10:5-6). Rev. H. M. Freligh says the early disciples "had to learn that while the Gospel is to the Jew **first**, it is not to the Jew **only**."

While Peter was thinking on these things, God stepped in and removed all doubt from Peter's mind. "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision (the Jews) which believed were astonished . . . because that on the Gentiles was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 10:44-45.)

God has a way of solving all the problems within the heart of the honest seeker. Peter was willing to be taught. He did not hinder the workings of God because of the limitations of his own finite mind and understanding. He saw that God had put His seal of approval upon the preaching of the Gospel to the Gentiles by pouring out His Spirit upon the house of Cornelius.

This was all the proof that Peter and the other disciples needed. "When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life" (Acts 11:18).

We have the Gospel. God intends that all men have the same opportunity, for "God is no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34). **Let us do our part!**

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING

Make checks payable to William Fells, Treasurer, and address, Rev. William Fells, 232 Sherman Ave., Ashland, Ohio.

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(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY

MANY PROTESTANT CHURCHES across our country are giving special emphasis this year to **making a Christian will.** This is an area within the field of stewardship and is quite frequently neglected. Certainly the Church needs to be challenged to incorporate into its teaching on Christian stewardship the Christian's privilege and responsibility of making his contribution to the cause of Christ beyond the span of his earthly life. This may be done by means of the provision in his will for perpetuating his support of the Lord's work.

Someone has said that "The writing of one's last will and testament is the final act of man's stewardship on earth—the last expression of his real interest. It is his exit word concerning his deepest desires, his protruding ambitions just as he steps into the presence of the King to render an accounting of his trusteeship on earth. It is as if God should say to him, 'I have given thee in full control through the years all these thy possessions to administer as thou didst deem best. With them life's loveliest values were thine to have, and now one last full chance is offered thee.'"

Have you made your will? Have you remembered your church and the work of your church at home and abroad? —W. Clayton Berkshire.

SEEING NIGERIA with Dorris Blough

The Doctor's Day

A BELL RINGS AT 6:00 A. M. which tells us to rise. At 6:15 the doctor is to be at the hospital for morning prayers with all the hospital workers. They meet outside and sit on a round cement bench in the middle of the hospital compound. (On cold mornings that cement is not very comfortable.)

At 6:30 he begins rounds in the wards with the assistance of the African nurses, Anggya (An-guy-a) and Mafa. On Monday he goes into the women's ward; Tuesday, men's; Wednesday, children's, and then repeats on the next three days. There are any number of interruptions during this time with many little matters to care for. After rounds he writes notes on all the cards of the patients he has seen. Then sometimes between 8:00 and 10:00 he gets home for breakfast and a shave (if someone does not come for him before he gets to shave.)

At 9:30 to 10:00 he returns to the hospital to do whatever surgery is on the schedule for the day. Or perhaps he will X-ray then, which involves his turning on the motor, warming it up, taking X-rays and then developing them himself. He aims to get to the dispensary by 11:00, but he seldom makes it before 12:00 or after.

When the patients who want to be seen in the dispensary see him go in, they come flocking to the door to await their turn. A laboratory report is ready on each of them since that must be done before the doctor can see them.

Miss Dadisman sees patients also, but even with two of them working they are rarely through before 3:30 or 4:00, sometimes later.

Mary Dadisman stays to count the day's receipts. Marvin checks his surgery cases of the morning and hopes to get home without too many more interruptions. He eats a sandwich. Then the only way for him to get any rest or diversion from the hospital is to leave home. If he stays home, someone is sure to come for him. Very often it is someone who has been ill for several days or even weeks and suddenly decided he had to see the doctor. This is an unpleasant part of medicine wherever the doctor happens to be. It is most difficult to say no to them, but the doctor also owes it to himself to get some rest.

A 4:00 each patient's temperature is taken and all those having 100 degrees or more are recorded and the record brought to either the doctor, Miss Dadisman or Anggya. They take turns. Usually it is necessary to return to the hospital to check on one or two of them. If any missionary needs medical care, this is usually given between 4:00 and 6.00.

With luck he gets to sit down to supper about 6:00, but often supper is postponed while he runs down to the hospital for a "minute." Being so close to the hospital has its advantages and disadvantages.

(Continued next week)

ASHLAND SEMINARY NEWS

Conducted by Ashland Theological Seminary

THE ASHLAND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY mourns the death of Willis E. Ronk. In view of Brother Ronk's keen interest in Brethren Church History and Doctrine, the Seminary and pre-Seminary students have started a fund to enlarge the Brethren Historical and Brethren Doctrinal sections of the library as a memorial to Professor Ronk. As of this writing, four hours after the beginning of the fund, the contributions have reached $40.

Because the students and faculty held Professor Ronk in such high esteem, this memorial fund has been established. We feel that this addition to the library will therefore continue the valuable influence of Brother Ronk in our midst.

We are sure that others in the Brethren Church will want to share in this concern of ours. Therefore, if you wish to contribute financially, direct your gifts to Dean Delbert B. Flora, Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio. With this money we will be enabled to purchase much-needed books and materials for the library. These will all be properly documented as a part of the memorial to Willis E. Ronk.

However, if you have Brethren History books, documents, Brethren Evangelists predating 1900, or any pamphlets, tracts or doctrinal materials pertaining to the Brethren Church, and you wish to donate them to this section of the library, please send them to Dean Delbert B. Flora, Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio.

THE EDITOR'S PULPIT

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING

(Continued from Page 3)

Endeavor Board since its organization in 1940 and continuing as a member of the present Brethren Youth Board until last year when the press of duties in the Editorial office led us to resign from the Board, this scribe can remember when the total expenditures for youth, as such, ran less than $200.00 a year. The C. E. Board was the **one** Board of the Church which did **not** ask of the Church an annual offering. What money was raised, came through voluntary gifts from local C. E. Societies.

BUT THAT IS ALL CHANGED NOW! We have seen our Brethren Youth work come "up through the years." Because of the general tendency to "side-step" youth work locally and nationally as a result of long years' habits, it has not been easy for the Brethren Youth Board to effect a workable income for the needed program. We trust that this year it shall be different. We trust that you shall read the special pages of this issue, and pray much about this coming offering.

Brethren Youth keeps nothing for itself. Its very being, its very motive is centered in training youth for Christian leadership in the Church. This means for you a better supply of Christian young people for your church leadership positions. It means for the denomination a more consecrated supply of ministers, minister's wives, missionaries and lay workers in the years to come. Let's not side-step our responsibiilty, Brethren! —W. S. B.

This 'n' That

By the Editor

SINCE this is the week of the big changeover in time for many areas, we are passing on the reminder that Ashland remains on Eastern Standard Time the year around. This is information to keep in mind by all "fast timers," if and when you have business in Ashland this summer, and especially as General Conference time rolls around.

Our thanks to National Brethren Youth Director, Clarence Stogsdill, for his help and cooperation in securing the materials for the special Brethren Youth section of this issue. W. S. B.

I'M STILL IN BRETHREN YOUTH

REV. CLARENCE STOGSDILL
National Director, Brethren Youth

MY WORK WITH BRETHREN YOUTH will not end on June 15, 1956. I expect to continue to work with the youth of the Brethren Church and their fine organization for many years to come. Instead of being the pitcher in this ball game, I will be a fielder. My prayer is that you, too, will find and take your place in Brethren Youth. You are not just a spectator, you know. There is plenty of fielding to be done, many intricate plays to execute, a game to be won for your side—the Brethren Church.

I sincerely thank the Brethren Church for the honor of serving in the capacity of Youth Director these past three years, and I pray that the Church will now stand with Phil Lersch as he takes the helm and give him a lift so that he in turn will be in a position to give a lift to the Church through her youth. We feel that some progress has been made these three years, for we have seen many young people come to know the Lord and many others give themselves to lifetime service in His Church. Many plans are still incomplete, and many others not yet fulfilled, to say the least. But we feel that this in itself speaks of progress. The Youth Board is planning a good program to move forward in helping to train youth leaders in the local churches. I feel that this is a very important step. The youth will not come and go out and serve without direction and guidance—they must have leaders.

With sufficient income there is no limit to the kind and quality of work that can be done through Brethren Youth. For several years we have been attempting to reach the goal of $8,500 in our May Offering to advance the cause of Brethren Youth. Not once have we come very close to reaching that goal. Generally it comes to around $3,500 to $4,000. That means that there has to be corner-cutting and money-saving —almost half the desired amount, including the income from the Ambassadors and Crusaders and special gifts, and much is not done that we should like to do.

The Brethren Youth magazine has been cut to six issues each year to save half the expense in that publication. There are other things on the agenda that should be published—e. g., an increase in size of the "Nutshell" booklets for teaching youth the doctrines of the Church, a better worship service program booklet, etc. For this reason the National Brethren Youth Project this year has been changed from one of missionary nature to a "help yourself" type project: $6,500 for Brethren Youth's aid, to be in by General Conference in August. WE'RE COUNTING ON IT!

Phil will need some good equipment with which to work in his office—when he finds time to be there. The Northeastern Ohio District Brethren Youth are now purchasing a new Gestetner color mimeograph which will be of tremendous help in producing better mimeographed material. I personally believe, too, that the national office deserves—even demands—a full time office secretary to assist the Youth Director in his correspondence, filing, subscriptions, proof-reading of published materials, editing other materials, etc. This would leave him free to do more field work with the local churches. Only a few extra hundred dollars toward the goal—$8,500—would do the trick. All of this, you can see, would strengthen the organization of Brethren Youth which is at present much too weak for practical purposes. We need to consider **Brethren Youth daily,** the year around, instead of just at General Conference or when there is a local or district Youth Rally.

MY APPRECIATION

I wish to thank all of you for your interest and assistance in the work of Brethren Youth, and for the dozens of invitations to speak and visit in your churches. I am sorry to miss the district conferences this summer, especially since I have been scheduled to take active part in most of them. Also, I take this means of expressing my appreciation to Brother W. S. Benshoff, Editor of the **Evangelist,** for his undying support of Brethren Youth and his faithful suggestions and cooperation continually in the printing of the messages in his paper. Much publicity has been ours in this manner that we otherwise would not have had—and FREE OF CHARGE! So, thank you, Brother Benshoff! And God be with Brethren Youth and their Director, Phil Lersch.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

AS WE GO ABOUT our daily lives witnessing, often without words, our families, our friends, our neighbors, and even those whom we meet only casually, are seeing in us perhaps their only view of what Christianity is and what it can mean to an individual.

Is what they see in our lives an example of a better way of life than anyone can attain without Christ? Do we have that "Peace that Passeth Understanding," not only in our spiritual lives and our personal relationship with God, but also as we go about our daily tasks? I am sure that everyone who has ever taken any responsibility in the church has had the experience of waking up some morning and realizing that the schedule for the day seems so full that it doesn't seem possible that everything can be accomplished. Do we always come through these difficult days with a smile and a testimony of praise to God for His help with the day's time schedule?

One day several years ago stands out in my memory. I had been helping in the field a couple of hours a day during harvest. The day before a District W. M. S. meeting we moved into a field where we had extra problems, so that it took six hours to accomplish one day's task; and no time was left to get ahead so that I could take a day off. The next morning I made the necessary phone calls to get a substitute to take over my responsibilities if I didn't get to the meeting. As I got in the car that morning I said a rather unusual prayer. It went something like this, "Lord, you know how much must be done and if you want me to go to that W. M. S. meeting this afternoon things will have to go a lot faster than they did yesterday." Apparently He wanted me to go, as the work was accomplished in two hours instead of six.

Do we thank Him for His help in the humble situations? Do we tell those whom we meet that He will help in any problem that they need not wait for some great crisis to arise to go to Him in Prayer?

Probably the people who are influenced most by the quiet day to day life of a Christian woman are her children. I can think of no greater tribute to a Mother than for it to be said, "all of her children know God."

Mrs. L. A. Schmiedt,
Manteca, California.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

held in the Warsaw Church Sunday afternoon, April 22nd. Mrs. E. M. Riddle, Honorary Patroness of the National S. M. M., was the guest speaker.

WABASH, INDIANA, COLLEGE CORNER BRETHREN. Brother G. B. Hanna notes that 19 of the College Corner Brethren had perfect attendance at the Township Pre-Easter Services.

Brother Hanna was the speaker for the Morning Chapel program over WARU the week of April 23-27.

The College Corner Brethren Church will be host to a meeting of the Wabash Ministerial Association on May 7th.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. A Sunday School Class for ages from High School graduates through 30 years of age is to be started on May 6th.

The Father-Son Banquet was held on April 21st.

AKRON, INDIANA. Brother Ralph McFadden writes, "The Brethren Youth Fellowship of the Akron Church is planning a retreat at Camp Mack. It will take place starting Friday night May 4th, and will end Sunday afternoon May 6th. Theme will be "All For Christ." Leader will be Ted Whitacre, senior student minister, Manchester College. There will be discussion, organized recreation, worship, free time, work together and plenty of food (cooked by the campers themselves.) We are looking for about 25 youth to attend. All are looking forward to a good week-end and an experience in spiritual growth."

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. A baptismal service was held the afternoon of April 22nd.

The W. M. S. Mother-Daughter banquet was a scheduled event of May 4th.

May 13th is the date for the W. M. S. public service.

HOWE, INDIANA. BRIGHTON CHAPEL BRETHREN. The Mother-Daughter banquet was a scheduled event of May 2nd, with Mrs. Lloyd Studebaker bringing a message concerning the work in Nigeria.

The W. M. S. Public service will be held Wednesday evening, May 16th.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Laymen's Day was observed on April 22nd. Mr. Clifford Young was the guest speaker.

The Mother-Daughter banquet was held the evening of May 1st, in the church basement, with the men doing the serving.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA. Eight were received by baptism and three by letter recently.

COMING EVENTS

LAYMEN'S RALLY
NORTHEASTERN OHIO DISTRICT

May 18th

Jons Park Pavilion—Mansfield, Ohio

Registration 6:30; Supper 7:00 E. S. T.
Important Business
Missionary Robert Bischof, Speaker

Reservations should be in by May 11th. Send to:

Raymond Metcalf,
489 Davidson St.,
Mansfield, Ohio.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

INVEST

in

YOUTH

TODAY

for a

STRONGER CHURCH

TOMORROW

MAY OFFERING GOAL - $8,500

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

VOL. LXXVIII May 12, 1956 No. 19

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Brother Woodrow B. Brant, of our Vinco Church, was the guest speaker for the Wayne Heights' Anniversary program held on May 6th.

The Young People's Class of the Jacobs Lutheran Church presented a program of sacred music in the Wayne Heights Church the evening of April 15th.

The Play, "Converting Dad to Missions" was presented by the Wayne Heights W. M. S. in the church the evening of April 8th.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. One new member was received by letter on April 29th.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO. GRETNA BRETHREN. The Mother-Daughter Fellowship was held the evening of May 2nd with the express purpose of effecting the organization of a Sisterhood in the church.

On Rural Life Sunday, May 6th, the Gretna Church was host to the Miami Grange, with a special program being presented by the church.

MANSFIELD, OHIO. Brother Harold Barnett, who has pastored the Mansfield congregation for the past several years, while a student in Ashland Seminary, has tendered his resignation, to take effect the first of September. At that time, Brother Barnett will assume the pastorate of the Second Brethren Church, Johnstown, Penna. Brother Barnett is a member of this year's graduating Class of Ashland Seminary.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. The Mother-Daughter banquet is scheduled for May 15th, in the Methodist Church.

AKRON, OHIO, FIRESTONE PARK BRETHREN. The Mother-Daughter banquet is scheduled for May 18th.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. The Mother-Daughter banquet was held the evening of May 3rd.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. The W. M. S. Public Service is scheduled for May 13th, with Mrs. Robert Earle, of Norwalk, Ohio, returned missionary from India, as guest speaker.

GRATIS, OHIO. The Mother-Daughter Banquet was held the evening of May 2nd.

FLORA, INDIANA. The Mother-Daughter banquet and program was held the evening of May 2nd.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Five were added to the church by baptism on April 22nd.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. The expansion program is progressing, with the recent purchase of property to the north and to the east of the church. The church now owns a complete quarter of the block.

Guest speaker on April 29th was Dr. Glenn L. Clayton, President of Ashland College and Seminary.

WATERLOO, IOWA. The Mother-Daughter banquet was held the evening of May 1st.

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 14)

ATTENTION: LITERATURE SECRETARIES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Third Quarter Order Blanks have been mailed. If you fail to receive one, please notify the office.

BE SURE TO RETURN THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to insure receiving your Sunday School supplies on time. ORDER NOW, AND AVOID DELAY.

The Brethren Publishing Company,
Ashland, Ohio.

The Editor's Pulpit

The Christian Home

WE ARE ON THE EVE of Mother's Day, and all that it means to each of us. Many are the precious memories surrounding this day, and of the presence of mother in the home. Some have not had the privilege of having a mother during their childhood. A few mothers did not prove to be the kind of mothers they should have been for growing children. Whatever the case, the fact remains that a good Christian mother is the best heritage a growing boy or girl can have.

On the mother often rests the welfare of the home. Often the tide and destiny of the children rises and falls on the character, or lack of it, of the mother in the home. This does not discredit the influence of good Christian fathers in the home, either. Children, as a rule, tend to be more intimate with their mothers; mothers are often with the children more than the fathers. There is a statement that is justifyably true: "Back of every successful man are two women, his mother and then his wife." Credit where credit is due.

Therein is also a tremendous responsibility for mothers. And this Mother's Day is a good time for all mothers to evaluate the kind of influence and the kind of homes they have for their families.

America has seen her strength in the Christian home. Out of homes where mother and father were Christian, where they attended Church services, where the Bible was taught, and where prayer was of supreme importance, have come great leaders, statesmen, ministers, missionaries. Multitudes of next generation home makers have also taken into life the Christian teachings and morals. This has resulted in a nation where law and order, peace and liberty are cherished possessions. That which we have is a product of the Christian home.

Christian homes are built upon the Rock, Jesus Christ; they endure for all time and eternity. Any tendency to weaken the strict adherence to scriptural precepts weakens the home just that much. Right now we are engulfed in a vicious whirlpool of unrighteousness in the land, which has ruined many homes and which threatens even the most sincere Christian families. We are reaping the harvest of days when many parents took a dim view toward attendance at Church services. This scribe has seen with his own eyes where parents sent their children to Sunday School, driving up to the church to pick them up afterwards. We have seen parents and children make themselves impressive in the Sunday School hour, only to rush out afterwards, leaving but the magnetic vacuum of their presence as the worship hour began.

We have seen parents literally "knock themselves out" getting their children prepared, dressed and primped for every imaginable type of social gathering, putting such things ahead of Church activities, or making no effort at all to seeing that their children were present for Church meetings.

We see now, the harvest. Where parents do not believe and show that Church and Church events are important enough to be placed first in the life; where prayer and Bible study in the home are secondary, then, dear friends, impressionable children are not going to consider them important when they become adults.

God bless our Christian homes—parents, who, in a day when true Christian living is an achievement, are staying by their God-directed standards. This is the way that is pleasing unto God. —W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Sarah Mack Longanecker

THE BIBLE HANDED ME some years ago by the late David Mack, of the Glenford, Ohio, community, was old. The pages were loose and the binding showed many years of use. Yet the page upon which the births and the deaths had been recorded in past years, now far removed was very easily read. The Bible had been the original possession of the great grandfather of David, Jacob Mack. Now that David has gone to join the host before him, the Bible is the property of the family. David Mack dropped dead at his farm home, Glenford, R. D., December 3, 1942. The Bible was purchased by Jacob Mack in December 1821 for the sum of $7.50. It was printed in English, though its owner was bi-lingual, speaking the German of his mother tongue as well as the English. Hard use necessitated the rebinding of the book of massive dimensions and he paid a local binder by the name of Jacob Datz, 75c on March 6, 1845, to do the job. Jacob used the book just ten years when its pages were closed to him in death.

The birth record is of vital interest to the many descendants and to genealogists. Here we find recorded the birth of the seven children, namely, Agnes, who married Jacob Leckrone, Sarah, who married Joseph Longanecker, and who is the subject of this article; John, Jacob, Alexander, Mary or as she was commonly called "Polly," who married John Longanecker and Anna the baby of the family.

Sarah, the second born of the family first saw the light of day in the old family home on Brown's Run, near Masontown, Pennsylvania, June 25, 1798. The handwriting with its old script faithfully records the name and date. As has been mentioned from time to time in previous articles the house of her birth still stands though the years of the past have meant remodeling of the original structure. Sarah was not quite two years the junior of her sister Agnes. Here the girls grew to womanhood aiding in the care of smaller brothers and sisters as they came along.

Life must have been filled with numerous activities there on the Run one hundred and fifty six years ago. The Mill was always of interest to boys and girls alike. The dam backed the water up into a good sized pond which was good for fishing in the summer and skating in the winter. The customers coming in to have their wants cared for, and the activities joined in with the neighbor children filled the days. Of course there were home duties which required a part of their time.

Sarah as she grew to womanhood embraced the faith of her Fathers, and became a member of the German Baptist Church, as it was commonly called. "Dunkard," it was to various members of other faiths.

The Macks, the Leckrones, and the Longaneckers, all neighbors in the German settlement, must have had more in common than with those over the ridge at Mason's Fort.

Joseph Longanecker, twenty-two years Sarah's senior, and the neighbor on the adjoining farm to the West, had emigrated to this section of Pennsylvania from Lancaster County. He had constructed for himself a two story log house, one that was exceptional for its day, and lived just a short distance from the present road. It should be stated at this time that a few years ago the house was razed. The field with its sloping hillside gives no indication that a house ever stood there. Death came to the companion of Joseph Longanecker. He was left alone with five small children. Joseph and Sarah's interests were much alike and she became his second wife, shouldering the responsibility of becoming a second mother to those unfortunate enough to lose their real one. This is a task often misunderstood, with insufficient credit given to the one who steps in to reestablish the home. All indications are that Sarah was equal to the task. Later on there were three of her own to add to the original brood. They were Jacob, born June 17, 1818, and Nancy, born September 17, 1821 and Lydia, the date of whose birth we are uncertain. Joseph was thrifty and when he died on November 15, 1853 he left a valuable farm to each of his eight children.

Joseph was buried on the farm where he had spent the most of his adult life. Some years ago the graves were placed together in the middle of a field, but in recent years the plow has been driven over them and others tilled the field who had no interest in the ones who had preceded them. While the original log house where Joseph and Sarah lived, no longer stands, the large brick house stands on the south side of the road to the East. It must have been one of the mansions and show places of its day as it is still an emblem of strength.

Approximately about the year 1832, Sarah saw her father, mother, two brothers John and Alexander, sisters Agnes and Anna move to Ohio. Her sister "Polly" accompanied them but soon returned to marry John Longanecker, Sarah's step son. Thereby she became the mother-in-law of her sister and the mother-in-law of her step

son. The five children of Joseph's over whom Sarah assumed the place of a second mother were, John, mentioned above; Frances, Catherine, who became the wife of her brother Jacob, thereby making her the mother-in-law of her brother; Maria and Joseph.

Correspondence was kept up between those who had gone to Ohio and those who remained in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The writer had access to an old letter, written in the German March 15, 1844 from Fayette County, Pennsylvania, to Jacob and Nancy Mack of Brownsville, Ohio. We give it as it throws light on that day over a century ago when there were troubles and problems in the family as well as the community. The translation of the letter is as follows.

"The 15 of March 1844. I have undertaken to write you a little, my dear father—and mother-in-law, in great sorrow, and trouble of all kinds. One thing that my son John is taking so hard, while his wife has decided that we can hardly save him. The other thing, that my son Joseph has gotten so in debt that I went his bail for more than $100.00, and I have paid one note for more than $32.87½. The other man also wants his money, but I cannot pay him until I get my money from those who owe me. And my son Jacob also went his bail for $40.00 that he has to pay. And that puts him back so he cannot pay his debts as he likes to do.

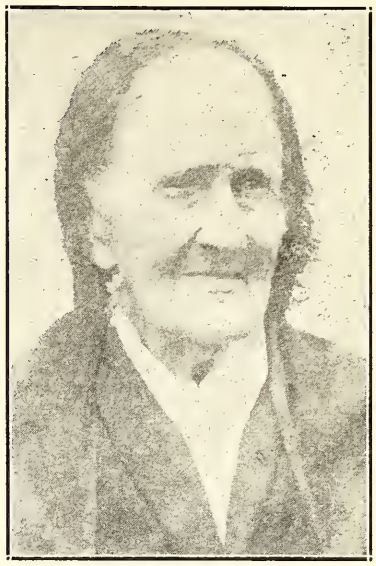
"If the Notary Remsi does as we have heard, then Jacob will be able to pay all his bills. But you are not mentioning him to us that we might know how it goes with him. I believe that if I could live with him like you do, I would get something from him through work. Perhaps you had thought of the same thing." (Here the folds of the old letter and the faint German script made translation very difficult if not impossible, but there was an inference that some one's word was not worth 25c. Author)

"So will my daughter Minnie, Jacob's girl, come to you and then you can inform him how the thing stands and he can tell us. Then in these hard times we have to observe how to work this thing out, that we do not ruin ourselves. That the expenses possibly are as much as the main sum. We are well and hope that these few lines will reach you in the same condition. This writing is a hard job. With hearty greeting to you dear father-in-law and mother-in-law, from all friends, and also a hearty greeting from our daughter Minnie.

Joseph Longanecker and
Sarah Longanecker."

The sheet and the envelope are in one piece and the letter was sealed with a wax seal.

It is not the intent of this article to trace the descendants of Joseph and Sarah Mack Longanecker, however we will state that they may be found in the Author's history of Alexander Mack and his Descendants. Suffice it to state that a grand son, the son of Jacob Longanecker became one of Fayette County's successful physicians. He was William Longanecker. The writer has frequently seen his name inscribed upon the wall of the Uniontown Hospital, as well as his picture prominently displayed in the same institution. Dr. Longanecker's daughter lives in Uniontown and is the wife of S. John Morrow, a prominent Judge. An old obituary gives the account of the



SARAH MACK LONGANECKER

passing of Jacob, the son of Joseph and Sarah Mack Longanecker. We give it for its interest.

"Jacob F. Longanecker died Sunday night, April 7, 1889, at Fairchance, Pennsylvania about 7 o'clock. The deceased was nearly seventy one years of age and was afflicted with a complication of diseases. He was of German descent and was born and reared in German Township. He lived there sixty years when he moved to the vicinity of Smithfield. Two months before his death he moved to Fairchance. He leaves a wife and son, W. A. Longanecker, M.D., to mourn his loss. The deceased was an enterprising and industrious farmer. He had a kindly spirit and was beloved by all who knew him. There were brief services at the house Tuesday morning at 9:30, and also at the Lutheran Church, the place of interment, the Rev. M. C. Bailey officiating. The deceased was one of the county commissioners of Fayette from 1855 to 1856."

For some reason the obituary fails to state that he was survived by his mother, Sarah Mack Longanecker.

Sarah Mack Longanecker spent all her long life in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. She was the great grand daughter of Alexander Mack, Jr. It may be of interest to state in this connection that her grand daughter, Mary Moser was the first wife of Elder James Quinter, who was Pastor of the Georges Creek Congregation. Fairview Dunkard Church of Masontown was a member of the circuit. Her last days were spent with her grand daughter, Mrs. Joseph Moser. Sarah was well remembered by her great grand daughter, Mrs. Charles Sangston of Masontown. Mrs. Sangston is a loyal member of many years of the Masontown Brethren Church. She told the writer when he was Pastor there of this remarkable old lady. She said, "She was a small woman, very exact, and firm in the faith of her fathers." She died near Walnut Hill and was buried in the cemetery at Jacob's Creek Lutheran Church. Later the body was taken up

and moved to the Oak Grove cemetery in Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Sarah's younger brother Jacob, some five years her junior was one of the outstanding Elders of his church in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, until his removal to Western Illinois where he died in 1871. He was the proprietor of the Mill where Sarah lived as a girl and young woman, and he traveled also into Virginia, now West Virginia on preaching missions. He and Elder James Quinter rode numerous times between Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and Licking County, Ohio, to the home of his father and mother and other relatives. Here preaching services, Love Feasts and services of the church to those in the outlying districts were carried.

It must have been with joy that they were welcomed back to Fayette County, after visiting with the Ohio relatives. Travel was hard and mostly by horse back, on foot or later on by stage. Sarah from her girlhood was a member of the church of her Ancestry. Apparently in one phase of her life she lived closer to the Grove Church of which her brother was Pastor than of the Fairview Church, for it was here that she had her membership. Her life was quietly spent and must have been like a benediction, to many who came to her in her last days. Surely one whose life span was nearly ninety four years of age, and went back to a year before the death of George Washington, was rich in memories. She was approximately five years of age when her great grand father Alexander Mack, Jr., died in his Germantown, Pennsylvania home. Whether she ever saw him, we have no information. While as a young man, Alexander, Jr., traveled in that part of the country and was on Cheat River, in what is now West Virginia, we have no records that he ever visited in the Masontown or Fayette County section of Pennsylvania. He traveled through the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and made his way to the sections west of the Potomac into the South Branch Valley, but other than that we have no information.

An old obituary, yellowed with age was supplied the writer by Mrs. Charles Sangston of Masontown. We share it with the reader. It was written by the Rev. S. W. Wilt, the Dunkard Preacher who conducted her last Service.

Longanecker—Sister Sarah Longanecker, of the Grove Congregation, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, fell asleep in Christ, June 13 th, 1892—aged 93 years, 11 months and 18 days. She had been a member of the church for about 75 years. Funeral took place at the home of brother Joseph B. Moser on the 15th. We laid her body to rest in the cemetery at Uniontown. Before her demise she selected hymns 431 and 598 from the German Baptist Hymn book. Also the 15th verse of the 116th psalm. These she desired to be used for the improvement of the occasion. She was fully prepared and longed for her departure to come. A large collection of relatives and friends followed the body to its last resting place, where it now awaits the resurrection moment, when it will be reanimated and immortalized, and the immortal spirit will be conjoined to it. Services conducted by the writer,

S. W. Wilt.

Her self chosen text, speaks well for a life of service and devotion for her master, it reads as follows, Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Sarah Mack Longanecker lived long enough, herself a part of the church for three quarters of a century, to see it make great growth, divide and perhaps also subdivide. She could remember when the churches were small and scattered. She saw them numerous and large. This was in part because each member felt personal responsibility for the Missionary effort in the propagating of the faith. They had a zeal that carried them to outlying sections of the Frontier, but with it they took their Bibles and their belief as had been handed down to them by illustrious forefathers. Little outside of their Bibles and their church was considered. Their lives and their testimonies they tried to equalize and make consistent.

Vacillating was no part of their religious life. To them their church and their Bibles were first and uppermost, and all were for the glorifying of their Christ. Perhaps we are too close to the present day to judge correctly, but it seems at times that we lack the fire and the determination of our early Dunkard Forefathers of the Church.

Through out not only Fayette County, Pennsylvania, but in other sections of the land may still be found Sarah Mack Longanecker's descendants. Some seem to have had given them in the main the stamp of character and determination, which not only speaks for success in their religious life but in their business and daily affairs. We produce the picture of the little old lady, little only in stature, as she appeared in her old age: a face marked by the hurrying feet of time and "crowned by the snows of many winters," but still with a forward look even while her life's sun was sinking low.

St. James, Maryland.

OLD LECKRONE HOME

NEAR MASONTOWN

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

TRIBUTE TO OUR PRESIDENT

WITH THE PROMOTION of our president, W. E. Ronk, to a higher position, the Missionary Board members are experiencing a keen sense of loss; however, we feel that the best way to honor him and to show gratitude for his wonderful friendship and leadership is to go on even more zealously with the work that occupied such a prominent place in his life.

Although it would be impossible to express adequately the feelings of the members for this Christian gentleman, they might be summarized briefly in this way:

Reverend Ronk was not only our leader, directing our thoughts—as objectively as is humanly possible; he was a scholar, displaying a wisdom in his thinking that is the product of logical reason and Christian ethics. His dealing with us was always characterized by kindness and understanding. He was a constant source of spiritual strength—a truly great man to whom the entire denomination looked for direction and counsel. No other man commanded greater love and respect from all of us.

We shall miss him immeasurably; but we do not protest, because God says, "Come; be promoted to a higher position and a larger service." Instead, we offer sincerely —"Thank you, Willis Ronk, for your life and what it has done for us!"

—The Missionary Board

PROJECTS, PROGRAMS, PROGRESS

WITH THE EXPANDING of our world missionary program in Argentina and in Nigeria, Brethren people seem to be achieving a new awareness of the needs of such a growing program.

For some time, to many of our people, missions was a subject mentioned once a year and promptly dismissed from serious thought. As the years have passed, however, interest has increased, and the work has become of more personal concern to almost everyone. Names of missionaries are well known; we write letters to them; we know their addresses. Their wants and needs are very real to us.

Projects*

Out of this developing interest in the more personal side of missions arose a practice of giving to definite mission projects. Some people have felt a special nearness to the work—more a part of it—if they might supply a particular need for a missionary or a station—something specifically or distinctively their own. For example, cars, medical supplies for dispensaries, C. R. I. teachers' salaries and a great number of other needs—some more personal—have been provided. As a result, "project giving" has had a splendid effect upon our people! It has increased our understanding and stimulated our zeal for the entire missionary program. In this way the Church and individuals have promoted missions commendably, and we are all grateful for the assistance.

Programs

Our missionary program has now reached the point where a rather sizeable budget is necessary to sustain it and to expand it. Countless expenses, involved in preparing, sending and supporting missionaries, as well as in maintaining mission stations, schools, hospitals, radio work etc. require large sums of money at regular intervals. Also, reasonably substantial amounts must be available at all times for emergencies, such as returning missionaries who are ill. Recently our page in the **Evangelist** carried a list of typical expenditures for one year. This should give readers a conception of regular expenses—and these amounts must increase as our work grows. They are not items that we can or can not supply, as we like; they are absolute **MUSTS**, if we want missions to live and grow.

Realizing the size of these regular expenditures, some mission-minded people are beginning to ask, "Wouldn't it be more helpful if we—individually or as groups—would give to the total mission program instead of in projects, allowing the Board to supply the missionary's needs as they arise?"

Without wishing to appear ungracious or ungrateful, the Missionary Board would answer this question with a hearty YES! Although the Board is extremely appreciative of the projects that have been undertaken and completed in the past, they realize now that too much emphasis on projects does produce serious problems. Sometimes those interested in missions give only or almost exclusively to projects, neglecting the basic mission program which makes project-giving possible (like buying awnings or TV antenna for a house that doesn't yet have a foundation or walls).

Sometimes project-givers write to the Board asking for a project requiring about $100 per year for three to five years. Thus the Board must look ahead for five years to what will be needed then (a special item) or else they must select some immediately-needed item and supply the remainder of the cost themselves, until such time when the group can repay the balance. In this way, from two to four years the group will be paying for an already-completed project (not too challenging for any group); also the Board may find itself involved rather deeply—to an impossible extent, perhaps—if many groups make such requests requiring advance payments on their projects.

It is extremely difficult to anticipate missionary needs, suitable for projects, far enough ahead to make them a

(Continued on Page 13)

Lest We Forget

W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Secretary
Co-Ordinating Finance Committee

THE 1955 GENERAL CONFERENCE adopted the report of the Co-ordinating Finance Committee (see page 23 in the Annual Number of the **Brethren Evangelist**) and thereby gave every Brethren Church and church leader an approach to a more unified and coordinated financial program.

The Co-ordinating Finance Committee and the officers of the General Conference sincerely hope that pastors and church leaders have directed their respective churches in giving consideration to the five recommendations in the adopted report.

Twelve Dollars Minimum Standard

The recommendation that a minimum standard of $12.00 per member per year as a goal of combined giving to the major denominational agencies is certainly a minimum, and is within the reach of every church and its membership.

A Systematic Financial Program Locally

Developing a systematic financial program in every Brethren church would not merely obtain money to do all that the church should be doing for Christ, but it would be engaging in the business of growing Christian stewards. It would be opening this door for the practicing of Christian stewardship and for the receiving of consequent blessings which God desires to pour out upon His children.

This recommendation implies a careful study of the local church program. It implies not only a study of the needs, but a study of the churches' combined ability to give. The denominational program must be studied just as thoroughly with every agency represented in the financial program or budget along with the items for the work of the church locally.

Every-Member Enlistment

Any program, regardless of its importance and its worth, must be sold to the people if it is to become effective. The Lord's program as carried on through the church is certainly no exception. Just as witnessing for Christ wins people to Christ, so witnessing for the program of His Church wins His people to more complete stewardship. Explaining the program of the local church and its denomination to every member annually, by those local people chosen and trained to do, so helps each member come face to face with what his church is attempting to do for Christ. If the enlistment is carried out properly, it will help every member face the fact that God loved him enough to redeem him and that God wants him to share the message of salvation with others. The enlistment program therefore brings the individual to the point of decision and commitment.

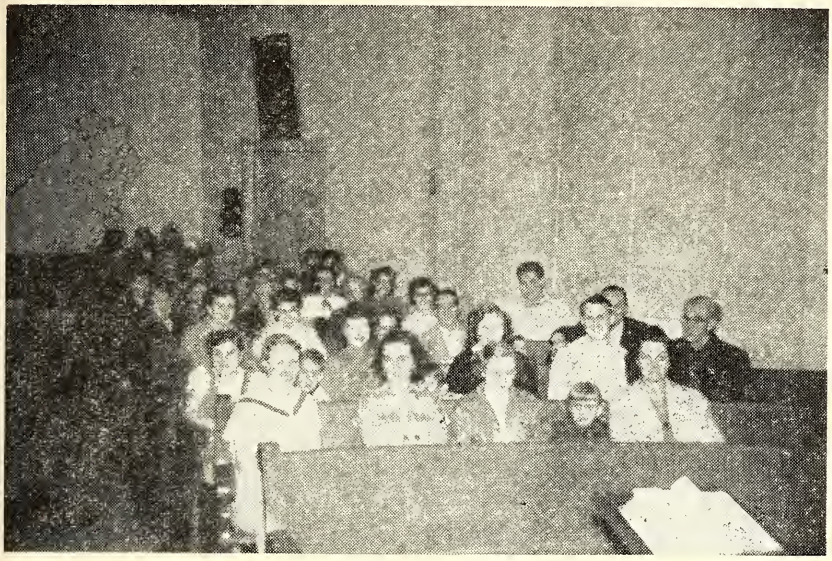
Workshop On Church Finance

A workshop is planned as part of the program of General Conference. It is hoped that many delegates will sit in on the workshop sessions.

Stewardship and Tithing Sermons

Informative and challenging sermons on stewardship and tithing can be most rewarding. A great deal of instruction is needed along this line in our churches. Pastors, refer to your copies of **Stewardship Facts** for sermon thoughts. Other books on stewardship are available through the Brethren Publishing Company and through the office of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church.

Accomplishments in this area of our church life will exalt our Lord Jesus and give all of us faith and courage to do more for Him.



WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO BRETHREN CHURCH reports on PRAYER MEETING INCREASE

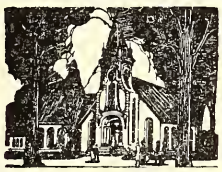
In many ways the Lord has been blessing the work at West Alexandria. Souls are continually being won to the Lord. Many people are becoming active who have not been up to now. Active in their giving of both time and money. The folks are getting a vision of what the Lord will do when a church or an individual goes all out for HIM.

One of the things that we are most proud of in the work of the Church here is our prayer service interest. We teach that a church that is prayer minded will go places and do great things for the Lord. For some time now the attendance has been growing upward to 45 in our Mid-week service. The enclosed picture was taken a few weeks ago when the attendance was in the forties.

We thank the Lord for this response and for the moving power of His Spirit. We ask an interest in prayers of the brotherhood in behalf of the West Alexandria work, that the Lord will continue to use both pastor and people to His glory for the salvation of souls.

Again we would remind other churches who think they cannot have a prayer service in their church, that if they will believe God and let the Spirit of God work in their midst and get a real vision of what the power of prayer can do, your church will be well on its way to recovery.

H. R. GARLAND, Pastor.



News From Our Churches

REVIVAL SERVICES AT TIOSA

Revival Services at the Tiosa Brethren Church came to an end on Sunday evening, April 15th. The opportunity to have had a part in this revival was a highlight of our ministry. It was my privilege to serve as their pastor for fifteen years from 1930 to 1946. To come back to Tiosa was like coming home, and the Brethren tried their best to make us feel that it was really a home coming.

The Church membership and their pastor, Rev. Swihart, did everything they could to make this meeting a success. Brethren came from College Corner, Denver, Teegarden and Elkhart. Members from the churches of Argos, the Walnut Church of the Brethren, and others in this community, not only came, but brought special numbers, which were appreciated and enjoyed by all present. To all of those that took a part in this revival effort we owe our deepest gratitude.

Rev. O. C. Lemert.

WARSAW, INDIANA

James 1:22, "But be you doers of the word, not hearers only deceiving your own selves." The needs are great, the opportunities for service plentiful, so the first three months of the year 1956 have been busy ones for the Christians who agree with James.

Among the interesting programs promoted was a Gideon speaker with a message explaining their Bible giving projects, a cornbread and bean supper was given by the Laymen, with Max Miller as speaker, (sounds good). Rolf Stolpner was speaker at both morning and evening services, Feb. 26th. This was interesting and challenging to all listeners. Sunday morning March 4, W. M. S. Group 1 gave their public service with Mrs. H. D. Hunter,

State President as speaker. In the evening, W. M. S. Group 2 presented the play, Aunt Fanny's Miracle. March the 10th and 11th, a Gospel Team from Ashland College was with us. The services conducted by this fine group were an inspiration to the entire church.

Our church joined with the other churches in the Good Friday services; also in the Sunrise Easter service. A very nice Easter breakfast was held at our church. A spring communion was held March 25th.

All organizations, Junior Church, Sunday School, Youth movements, including Signal Lights and Sisterhood, are active. Regular attendance, prayer and tithing are stressed. Rev. Holsinger has found time to make many pastoral and sick calls with all the many duties he must needs perform, believing in be ye "doers."

But bread cast water
Brings its reward
There's always a blessing
In serving the Lord.

Corres. Sec. Jennie Bennett, Warsaw, Indiana.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA

On the morning of Easter Sunday we enjoyed a wonderful Sunrise service. One hundred and twenty-five gathered in the early morning hours to worship our risen Savior. Rev. J. D. Hamel, of South Bend, gave a short Easter meditation which was an inspiration to all of us. Following the worship service, the men served breakfast in the church dining rooms. They are really good cooks, and it was enjoyed by all. There were one hundred seventy-eight for the morning worship service and one hundred thirty-nine for Sunday School.

We are still carrying on an improvement program. Since our last report the men have painted the basement floors and the W. M. S. has had an electric hot water heater installed. We also had a telephone installed in the vestibule of the church. Anyone wishing to contact us, call 42J.

During the week of May 21st, several people from here are going to Lost Creek, Kentucky, to paint the rooms in the boys' dormitory. This is a project that is being sponsored by the local Laymen's organization, but anyone wishing to help will be welcome.

Mrs. Ernest Schrader, Cor. Secty.

MULVANE REVIVAL

After a strenuous revival and Holy week services at Falls City. I took the train to our growing church at Mulvane, Kansas. It was a real inspiration and privilege to work with brother Burton and his very fine congregation. Mulvane is about fifteen miles south of Wichita which is spreading all over the country. A few years ago, Wichita was one hundred sixty-nine thousand in population and now it is about three hundred thousand. All the smaller towns for miles around it are building up at a rapid pace; that is also true of Mulvane.

It is claimed that about half of the farmers work part time at the Boeing, Cessna and Beech aircraft factories as well as in some of the other industries. People are flooding into this area which makes it a good place to establish a church or churches.

I stayed for two weeks with the Burtons and the hospitality was of the best. It was interesting to visit in the homes of the people, although it was difficult at times to remember which shift the various people had at the factories. Kansas cooking is of the best and the people very graciously had us for meals when it was possible.

The general attendance during the week was fair; quite a few were unable to attend because of working conditions. The church was full on Sunday mornings and the Sunday evening crowds were fine. The Mulvane people love the word. They carry their Bibles, give testimonies, and are very responsive in offering prayer. It was indeed refreshing to fellowship with them. They love to sing and while I was with them we organized an instrumental quartet made up of two Saxophones, a trumpet and a baritone horn. There were vocal or instrumental specials at all services.

Brother Burton led the congregational singing with gusto and the response of the people was splendid. There were special nights which created some interest. On family night the Walter Pray family was present with ten and another family with nine—eight and seven children respectively. The church is full of young people; about half of the congregation each service was children and young people. This indicates a great future for this church.

The Holy Spirit worked in the meetings; the response was wonderful. People came seeking; many with tears in their eyes. All through the two weeks they came; some for consecration, some for salvation, and many for full time service for the Lord. On the last night seventeen came forward for various purposes; many were young people. It was thrilling to witness the moving of the Spirit. Brother Burton will give the numerical results.

On Monday I conducted the communion service. It was a marvelous fellowship with some of the new converts present. I was so happy to be able to stay over to be in this service. Great things can be expected from this congregation. The leadership of the pastor has led them on from strength to strength.

This church was originally out in the country; it gradually went down until it was closed for five years. Under the leadership of Rev. Wilbur Thomas it was decided to move it into Mulvane. The parsonage in the country was sold and with this money and help from the Mission Board the church was moved. It was split in the middle, both sides moved out and a fourteen foot section inserted in the middle the entire length of the church. There was a face lifting, beautiful furniture, a very fine basement put under the building making a very fine church structure. A parsonage was bought and the congregation is reducing the indebtedness fairly rapidly. It still receives some help from the Mission Board. This is a church which should give a good account of itself and of the Lord in this very progressive area.

I want to thank Rev. and Mrs. Burton for their splendid hospitality. They did everything possible to make me

feel at home and they surely succeeded. The people also treated me royally. May God continue to bless this church in effective service for Him.

J. Milton Bowman.

MULVANE, KANSAS

The Mulvane Brethren Church has just passed through "A season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord," as the result of a two weeks revival meeting conducted by brother J. Milton Bowman of Falls City, Neb.

Brother Bowman preached uplifting, heart warming Gospel messages from night to night which was very much appreciated by all who heard him. One of the outstanding features of the meeting, was the large percentage of young people and boys and girls who came to the services each evening. This resulted in five confessing Christ and receiving Christian baptism. Two others confessed Christ and await the rite of baptism. About 35 others came to the altar of prayer for rededication and a closer walk with God, while several young people came to the altar for consecration and life-time service for the Lord.

On Monday evening, following the revival, Brother Bowman remained with us and conducted the communion service. This was a blessed experience for all who attended.

Pray for the work here at Mulvane. We feel very much alone at times. No Brethren churches near by. No Brethren delegations to attend our revivals, and none move in to add to our membership as most denominations here enjoy. Therefore, those who join us, except the members children, come into our fellowship from other churches. But despite this handicap, and losing a few families by removal, there is a gradual gain in attendance at all services and in church membership. Prior to the revival, three had been received by baptism since the first of the year, of which two are husband and wife.

We enjoyed very much the delightful fellowship of brother Bowman in our home during the revival. We thank the membership for the splendid meals given us in their homes, and restaurant. The Brethren here enjoyed the fine fellowship and sermons of our brother very much, and our prayers go to God for him and family in their splendid work at Falls City..

J. F. Burton.

MEETINGS AT CANTON, OHIO

It was a real Blessing to spend March 4 through March 11 at the Trinity Brethren Church, in Canton, Ohio, in a series of Revival Services. The Church was well prepared for the Evangelistic efforts and souls were won to the Lord. My home while there was with Rev. and Mrs. Keplinger. It was a real joy to work with these fine young people of the Brethren Ministry, and I was certainly a royal guest in their home.

The Services were well attended, and many visitors from neighboring Churches attended at various times. Brother L. V. King, and others from Louisville, folks from Akron, Ohio, North Georgetown, etc., were kind in attending. We appreciated immensely the fellowship and friendship of the many homes in which we were entertained.

As always is the case, the burden of carrying on the services falls upon the loyal folks who do the work of the Church. This group was very wonderful, with a goodly number attending every service. We were very conscious of the Lord's leading in our work with the folks here and pray that God may continue to bless and use them mightily for His glory.

Rev. R. K. Higgins.

Laid to Rest

PORTE. Mrs. Clara F. Porte, Sergeantsville, N. J., 90 year old widow of Elder John W. Porte, died Feb. 2nd. Was lifelong resident of Sergeantsville, a member of the Sergeantsville Brethren Church, Charter member of the W. M. S., and a S. S. teacher. Survived by two daughters, Mrs. Lillian Bernheisel and Mrs. Emmert R. Wilson; two sons, Elder Dr. Robert F. Porte, of Warsaw, Ind., and William; 8 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. Services held on Feb. 6th, Rev. George Lindburg of the Brethren Church officiating. Burial, Prospect Hill Cemetery, Flemington, N. J.

* * *

SYLVESTER. Mrs. Anna Sylvester, 82, died Mar. 23rd, Lambertville, N. J. Charter member of Sergeantsville Brethren Church. Husband, John G., preceded her in death. Survived by one daughter and one son. Funeral services conducted by Rev. George Lindburg of the Sergeantsville Brethren Church. Burial, Sandy Ridge Cemetery.

* * *

BAER. Charles Peter Baer went home to be with God, March 7th at the age of 80 years. Had been a faithful member of the Main Street Brethren Church, Meyersdale, Penna., for 58 years, and was serving as trustee at the time of his death. Survived by one son, three daughters and one grandson. Services conducted by his pastor; interment, Berlin IOOF cemetery.

Horace Huse, Pastor.

* * *

STAUB. Harry T. Staub, faithful member of the Main Street Brethren Church, Meyersdale, Penna., for 33 years, was called home by his heavenly Father, April 15th, after a lingering illness. At the time of his death he was serving his church in the capacity of treasurer. Survived by his wife, one son, four daughters, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Services conducted by his pastor; interment, Meyersdale Union cemetery.

Horace Huse, Pastor.

BRETHREN YOUTH WARRANTS YOUR SUPPORT

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

SHUT IN

Shut in, God knows why,
That days and weeks and months pass by,
And still shut in.

The busy rush of life goes on,
The new year comes, the old year's gone—
And still shut in.

Shut in, and there still comes a love
And peace and joy down from above
While thus shut in.

Shut in, so may it be
Until the hour He'll say to me;
"It is enough! Go forth to serve

With all thy might,
In earthly ways or fields of light,
No more shut in."

—Author Unknown.

THE GREATLY AFFLICTED JOB said that God knew that he was passing through deep waters (Job 23:10). Job expected to profit greatly by his sufferings (Job 23: 10). If we belong to God, we can rest assured that He has not forgotten us (2 Tim. 2:19). He has promised to stand by us through sickness and trials (Isaiah 41:10). He knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation or trial (2 Peter 2:9). He has numbered our days, and He knows the why of our circumstances (Psalm 37:18). We are told to cast "ALL" our care upon Him, and He will do the caring (1 Peter 5:7). Let us not be fearful; let us have faith (Matt. 8:26). "ALL THINGS work together" for our good (Rom. 8:28). How would we ever know God's comfort without the need for the same (Matt. 11:28, 29)? Let us take His Word in faith lest His purposes in grace be rendered void (Heb. 4:2).

"There is a life deep hid in God
Where all is calm and still
Where listening to His Holy Word
One learns to trust—until
All anxious care is put away
And there is peace profound, always:
Grant us Thy peace, O God!"

God has promised to be with His people (Gen. 26:3; Ex. 3:12); Matt. 28:20). His all-seeing eye beholds our afflictions (Gen. 29:32); Ex. 3:7-10). He remembers His people in time of trouble (Psalm 34:17-19; 1 Cor.10:13; 2 Peter 2:9). He will not forsake His people (Psalm 37: 25-28; Heb. 13:5). He promises deliverance in time of trouble (1 Sam. 2:9, 10; Job 5:19-22; Psalm 91:9-16).

God has a peculiar manner of help (Deut 32:39; 1 Sam. 2:6-8; Job 5:17, 18). He has wonderfully delivered (Dan. 3:26-29; 6:18-22; 2 Tim. 3:10, 11). He has not left us without equipment for resisting our adversary (1 Sam. 17:45, 46, 50; 2 Cor. 10:4, 5). Satan's power is limited (Job 1:12; Matt. 8:30-32). God sanctifies our trials (Matt. 5:10-12; Rom. 8:28). He assures us of success Exod. 3:10-12; Acts 9:13-16). We are to comfort one another in life's trials (1 Thess. 4:18).

"Sparrow, He guardeth thee;
Never a flight but thy wings He upholdeth;
Never a night but thy nest He enfoldeth;
Safely He guardeth thee.

"Lily, He robeth thee;
Though thou must fade, by the summer bemoaned,
Thou art arrayed fair as monarch enthroned;
Spotless He robeth thee.

"Hear, thou of little faith;
Sparrow and lily are soulless and dying;
Deathless art thou; will He slight thy faint crying?
Trust, thou of little faith!"

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for May 20, 1956

THE CHURCH IN ANTIOCH

Lesson: Acts 11:19-30

"IT'S AN ILL WIND that blows no good," is a common expression heard in the world. They who repeat it mean that even an act of misfortune can be of some value to the one so involved. Christians have a much better axiom—better because it is found in the Bible and backed by God. It is this: "All things work together for good to them that love God" (Rom. 8:28). These are not idle words. Christians have found that God means what He says!

We stated several weeks ago in one of the lessons that God had to permit persecution to come upon the early Church before she would obey Him and become a witnessing Church. In today's lesson we see what resulted from the scattering of the disciples.

"Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only" (Acts 11:19). Not only did the Gospel reach the Jews. Some of the disciples, men originally from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to the Gentile city of Antioch and preached unto the Greeks. "And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord."

God has chosen us to be His witnesses. Our duty, therefore, is to witness. When we do our part and witness, God will do His part and give fruit for our labors. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed,

shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalm 126:6).

News of what had happened in Antioch among the Gentiles soon reached the Jewish Church at Jerusalem. Barnabas immediately set out for Antioch that he might bring back a first-hand report. Barnabas, "when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord."

It was evident to Barnabas, who "was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith," that God had performed a genuine work of grace among the people at Antioch, even though they were Gentiles. With Peter he was forced to admit that indeed "God is no respector of persons." **How glad we ought to be that this is so! Rich or poor, lord or peasant, young or old, white or black—all have equal opportunity to accept God's gift of salvation!**

Further evidence of the genuineness of God's work in the lives of the Christians at Antioch came to light a short time later. A famine broke out in Jerusalem. "Then the disciples (at Antioch), every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul."

God is primarily interested in our **hearts**, not our **gifts**. However, it has always been true that a willingness to share with those in need, or with the work of the Lord, is evidence of the true condition of the heart! In other words, a man's **heart-strings**, and **purse-strings**, are tied together!

The Jewish Christians at Jerusalem had been very reluctant to share the Gospel with the Gentiles. **And yet when the Gentiles at Antioch heard the Gospel, and embraced its truths, they immediately wanted to share their worldly goods with their less fortunate Jewish Christian brethren in Jerusalem!**

"We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren" (I John 3:14).

MISS MIRIAM M. BIRD elected President of the East-Central District Alumni Association of Ashland College

THE EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT Alumni Association of Ashland College held their annual banquet the evening of April 27th in the Vinco Brethren Fellowship House. Speaker of the evening was Dr. Joseph Shultz, Field Representative of the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church. Mrs. Shultz rendered several piano solos for the program. Vocal soloists were Miss Ruby Holsopple and Miss Shirley Stennet, both of Vinco. The dinner was served by the Vinco W. M. S.

Officers elected for the year are: President, Miss Miriam M. Bird, Meyersdale; Vice-President, Rev. W. B. Brant, Vinco; Secretary, Rev. E. M. Keck, Jones Mills; and Treasurer, Miss Lucetta Hibbs, Pittsburgh.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

(Continued from Page 7)

several-year undertaking. It is equally difficult to suggest many short-term projects costing just the amount each group can afford to spend.

Progress

If our interested individuals, classes, W. M. S. groups, etc. will feel sufficiently close to our mission work and confident of the wisdom of the Board to promise, "We will give $50, $100, $250—or any amount they wish—to the regular missionary program, as our project," then the Board will be able to furnish the absolute necessities first and proceed to the other items as funds allow. The real needs will be met at the time they are essential.

Let's study and pray for an understanding of our entire missionary program needs. The Board must supply salaries, transportation, living quarters, medical fees etc. before they can provide cars and other items slightly less essential; but with sufficient support to the overall program, they will furnish all wanted items—essentials and non-essentials.

If you would like to provide a definite amount to the work, why not say, "We will give (state the amount) to the total program?" Such an attitude on the part of many will spell for our missionary work one word: PROGRESS.

*Emphasis on advancement from project-giving to support of the total program should not be interpreted to include the National W. M. S. projects, such as the Argentine headquarters and residence buildings or the Higi buildings. These huge projects are actually a part of our basic missionary program. We sincerely hope these worthy undertakings—in harmony with Board planning—will continue.

SEEING NIGERIA with Dorris Blough

The Doctor's Day

(Continued from last week)

The evening may or may not be quiet. Sometimes he is not called out; other times he spends most of the evening at the hospital. However, he gets very few night calls; so usually does get a good night's sleep.

Sunday morning there are no prayers at the hospital; some sleep in as late as the children will let us. If it is not his Sunday on call, he is supposed to be uninterrupted. However, he usually has a call or two that the nurses are not able to care for.

A doctor anywhere is extremely busy. As the doctor's wife, I feel there are definite advantages to being in Africa. I can watch surgery whenever I want to (if someone is with the children). I know about each case, and I find that most interesting.

In the majority of cases, it is not a matter of making an ill person feel better, but rather that of giving life to a person who otherwise would surely have died. That one fact makes up for many weary hours. That is the mission doctor's "time and a half pay for overtime."—From the Gosepel Messenger

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

The following topic was presented by Shirley Graf, student of Ashland College, to the Sunday evening College Youth Fellowship during the basketball season.

THE GAME OF LIFE

TONIGHT I would like to compare the game of basketball to the game of life. The clock shows it is just about time for the game to begin. But first the coach is calling the players aside and making certain they all understand the boundary lines because so often they forget. Really this seems a little silly since any one can plainly see these; they are wide, black lines contrasting with the light colored floor, if the players will only pay attention. We are traveling at such a high speed that before we know it the lines loom up before us and it is too late to stop, and then we go out of bounds. The coach is also making certain that the players know which basket is theirs; although there are two identical baskets it makes a difference which one we are aiming for. Just as a player looks silly when he shoots at the wrong basket, so do we in the game of life. One basket is for the White team, the other for the Black team. We need to be sure we are aiming right. The bankboards and baskets are above our heads, but with careful practice and aim in the right direction we can be successful.

The black team furnishes very stiff competition in the world today and it is going to take teamwork to defeat them. We may not be the star player that the crowd is praising, but God has given each of us a position to play, and unless we do our part there will be a weak spot in our team's defense.

God is our referee in this game. I once heard a referee say he never made a mistake in his calls because he called them all just as he saw them. So it is with God. There is no mistake because he sees every move we make. We may fool ourselves and our friends but there is no by-passing the judgment of God. Everything is recorded in the score book. We need to remember God never has and never will make a mistake.

The whistle has sounded and the game will start with a jump from the center. If the white team is to get the ball we must jump high. If we have taken advantage of the opportunities we have had in practice it will not be too difficult to out-jump our competitors. We have practiced jumping and therefore the ball goes into the possession of the White team. All goes well and we take the ball down the floor. But the referee blew his whistle. What could that be for? His call is, "One of the players of the White team has been in the keyhole of sin for more than the allowed time. It is so easy to forget some of the rules when we are playing. We start to do little things and they led to bigger things and God has to blow his whistle to make us stop and think. As a team in playing basketball needs to take time out once in a while so do we in the game of life. We must put aside time to study the rule book which is the Bible, and also pray for his help in our work and play from day to day.

As we are nearing the end of the game how does the score book look? We find the White team has made a lot of fouls. They have been called for gossiping, judging and condemning others, having a holier-than-thou attitude, going along with the crowd, and failing to witness.

In the game of life we cannot lag behind. The opportunities we have failed to take advantage of today are gone forever. There may be a chance to make up for some of them, but then again, there may not be another chance.

I wonder if maybe some of us are guilty of stalling. Are we putting off accepting Christ or of consecrating our lives to him because of what the crowd might say? We can't continue to run in and out of the boundary lines and get away with it. God can and will make such a difference in our lives if we will only put our trust in him.

COMING EVENTS

BRYAN, OHIO. Dedication of New Addition and rededication of the whole church building—Sunday, May 20th, 2:30 P. M. (EST)—General invitation to the Brotherhood to attend is given. Rev. Alvin H. Grumbling, Pastor.

The Southern Indiana District Laymen will be host to the Northern Indiana District in a joint meeting to be held at the Brethren Church in North Manchester, Indiana, Monday Evening, May 21st, 1956.

We especially urge a good attendance from all churches. A number of churches are becoming very lax in their Layman's Organization, so please come and enjoy a good time and receive a real blessing. A fine program will be in store for you.

Supper hour 6:00 to 7:30 prevailing time. Please send reservations to the North Manchester church, Please.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

NORTHEASTERN OHIO DISTRICT
BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY
Firestone Park Brethren—Akron, Ohio
Sunday, May 27th
Registration—2:00-2:30 D. S. T.

Rev. Elmer Brumbaugh, Juvenile Delinquent Youth Counsellor for Summit County, afternoon and evening speaker.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

IS YOUR LIFE A LIFE of DO's or DON'TS? Many times we are faced with decisions of whether or not it is right to do a certain thing or go to a certain place. Sometimes we don't give our actions much thought. We just participate in activities because our friends do so, or we have fallen into the rut of going along with the crowd. Are we inclined to weigh our actions against the effect they will have on others?

The problem of what to do and what not to do as a Christian, if it can be called a problem, certainly arises from our personal ideals or motives. If our ideals and motives are based on the Word of God, then our activities will be the results of our discovery of His will for our lives. We will be concerned about the influence we exert upon others. As St. Paul said in I Cor. 8:13, "If meat makes my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh."

The Christian life should be a positive way of living. Jesus did not add more laws to the early disciples' already long list of THOU SHALT NOT'S. He spoke to them of the happiness they would experience if they were meek, merciful, peacemakers, pure in heart, poor in spirit and seekers after the truth. He lifted up the fallen, ate with sinners and forgave them. In order to bring salvation to the Samaritan woman He had said that He must needs go through Samaria. John 4:4. He helped those who needed help, fed the hungry and talked about how to get along with their neighbors. He offered to take away burdens which they were unable to carry themselves.

When our lives are being lived for Christ, we too will want to have a positive outlook as He did. Our time will be taken up with those activities which need to be done. Do we have time to prepare a Sunday School lesson so that it will be interesting and appealing to the class? Do we have time to serve on a committee in the Missionary Society if it takes several evenings of our time? Do we have time to sing in the Choir? It takes practice and requires regular attendance at the worship services. Do we have time to go to prayer meeting and fellowship with other Christians?

When we accept the salvation Christ died to provide for us, He sets us apart from the world. He commissions us to witness for Him. Then our activities, like the many pieces of a puzzle, will fit together to make a beautiful picture. We will be DOING things, not concerned about the things we DON'T do.

Miss Ida S. Kimmel,
Berlin, Pa.

SERVICES FOR THE LATE ELDER WILLIS E. RONK

Funeral services for Brother Willis E. Ronk, of Ashland, Ohio, were held in the Park Street Brethren Church, Ashland, on Friday morning, April 27th, at 9:30 o'clock. Organ music was given by Mrs. Phil Lersch. A sextet of seminary and pre-seminary young men sang two numbers, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine," and "My God and I." Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, pastor of the Park Street Church, read appropriate scriptures and led in prayer. The message of the hour was given by Dean Delbert B. Flora, of Ashland Theological Seminary. Members of the Faculty of Ashland College and Seminary assisted with the flowers. The above mentioned sextette served also as pallbearers. Immediately following the service, the family left for Goshen, Indiana.

Brother E. M. Riddle furnishes us with the following concerning the service at Goshen:

"The people arrived here within fifteen minutes of the time for the service at 3:30 P. M., in the Brethren Church, Goshen.

"A duet was used, "Blessed Assurance," with scripture excerpts read by Rev. Spencer Gentle, pastor of the Goshen Church, and prayer was offered by Rev. Virgil Meyer, of Nappanee. The short message was delivered by Rev. E. M. Riddle, of New Paris.

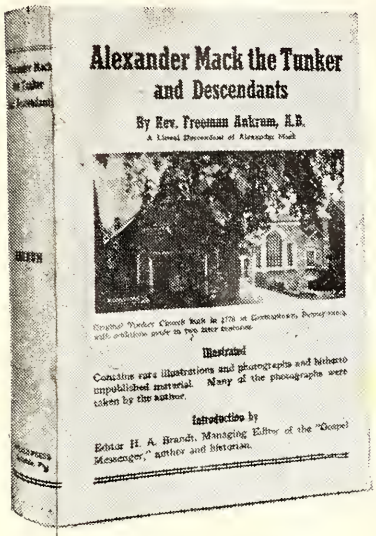
"Most of the Brethren ministers and their wives, of Indiana, were present in a group. They stood at each side of the exit of the church, while the casket and relatives left the church. That which is earthy was left in a beautiful spot under the trees at the south edge of the city of Goshen."

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING DAY

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1956

Goal—$8,500.00

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.



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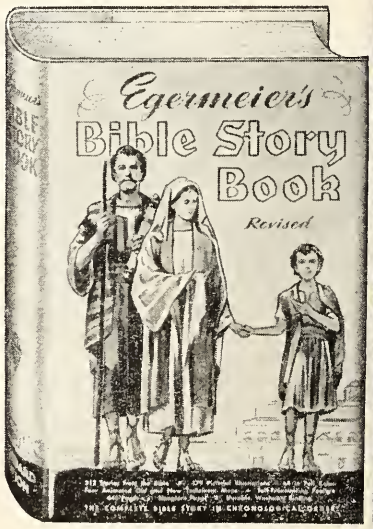

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Items of General Interest

MAURERTOWN, VIRGINIA. A highly successful District Youth Rally held the evening of May 4th, in the Maurertown Church, is reported by Brother J. R. Shultz, speaker of the evening. The rally was promoted by the Lockes and the Klingensmiths. The coming District youth camp was promoted. Skits, and special music from each of the churches were presented. A bus load of young people from the St. James Church and a bus load from the Hagerstown Church, plus good representation from the other district churches, accounted for the excellent attendance of approximately 185.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The Mother-Daughter banquet was held the evening of May 8th in the church.

Brother Freeman Ankrum was the speaker at the Brook Lane farm at their chapel service on May 1st.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. The W. M. S. public service was held the morning of April 15th, with Mrs. Helen Vanator as the speaker of the hour.

Arthur Brenton, secretary of the Sarasota Brethren Laymen's Organization, was the speaker at the Laymen's public service the morning of April 29th.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. The Mother-Daughter banquet was held in the church the evening of May 3rd. Thirty-three mothers and daughters were in attendance.

Brother N. Victor Leatherman was the guest speaker at the Blue Rock United Brethren Church the evening of May 6th.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. A fellowship supper, and reception, were held for new members the evening of May 6th. Following the supper, Pastor Horace Huse led a discussion on baptism and communion.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. Pittsburgh's Mother-Daughter banquet was an event of May 3rd.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. Brother Clarence Stogsdill, who will complete his work as National Brethren Youth Director the middle of June, has accepted the call of Third Brethren to serve as pastor. Brother Stogsdill will preach his first sermon in his new pastorate on July 8th.

CAMERON, W. VA.—QUIET DELL, PENNA. Brother Cecil Bolton, Jr. notes that on the evening of May 10th a congregational dinner, in honor of their High School graduates, was held.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. The Laymen, in their public service on May 6th, presented Dr. Glenn L. Clayton, President of Ashland College, as the speaker of the hour.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. May 15th was the day for the Mother-Daughter banquet.

NEWARK, OHIO. We note that the Cricks have completed their move from the house formerly rented for their use on Davis Avenue, to the newly purchased parsonage just north of the Chapel. Their address is 40 N. 26th St., Newark, Ohio.

Duane Sholly, Ashland Seminary student, was guest speaker at the Newark Chapel on April 22nd.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. The B. Y. C. has started working on their church paper "The Brethren Journal" every Saturday. They plan to put out a paper about once a month. On a recent Saturday they worked on the paper in the morning and in the afternoon they worked to build up their treasury by washing cars, mowing lawns and cleaning windows.

The Pleasant Hill Church is now in the midst of a new building project—bricking the front of the church so that it looks like the new part. Some remodelling in the church is being done, too. The parsonage is to be reshingled in June.

The Mother-Daughter banquet was held May 10th.

Eighteen new members were received into the church by baptism and four by letter recently.

(Continued on Page 6)

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 6)

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

THE FAMILY of the late Willis E. Ronk wish to take this means of expressing appreciation for all the cards and letters received from the Brotherhood following the passing of their husband and father.

OUR COVER PICTURE

A scene at Linwood Park, Vermillion, Ohio, site of the 1956 Ohio District Conference, looking toward Lake Erie. More pictures on pages eight and nine.

The Editor's Pulpit

Church News And Your Church

ONE OF THE PRIMARY PURPOSES of a Church Organ, such as **The Brethren Evangelist**, is the dissemination of church news.

There are two areas in which this operates. **First**—the reporting of events, programs and plans of Denominational boards and auxiliaries to the churches. **Second**—the reporting of the news of local churches. Both phases find ready acceptance on the pages of your church paper.

One thing stands out. We must have the news in the Editorial office before we can report it. This is true of Denominational departments as well as local churches. We cannot report what we do not have, nor what we do not know about. Nor can the Editor, because of the press of duties of his office, become a "roving reporter," going around seeking information on announcements about those things which could, or should, be reported. The burden of responsibility of news reporting in a Church paper rests on those who "make" the news, or on those who are delegated to report such news.

This week we are directly concerned with local church news reports. Right now, we are "lush" with reports. A few weeks ago, there were no news reports at all in our office for publication. In order to keep a "balanced paper" sometimes reports are "held up" a week or two. But generally reports are printed in the first issue to go to press after such reports are received.

We have speculated as to what we would do if all churches and all pastors were as faithful in reporting news as some are. Well, we would certainly find room to print them. As it is now, some churches seem never to be heard from in the news report section. Be it modesty, indifference, carelessness, or procrastination, the difficulty should be overcome. A church news report, signed either by the pastor, or church correspondent, should be forthcoming from every church at least once every three months. Send us a picture, or two, of some special event, and we'll illustrate your report.

Occasionally we hear the cry, that "We're not doing anything, so there's nothing to report." The obvious moral of that plaintive bleat is to get busy and do something! Other Brethren are interested in reading about your church. A good news report is a good witness for you and your church.

Other churches receive strength and ideas from reading about the plans, programs and accomplishments of the churches they read about in the church paper. Therefore, a local church is helping to foster the entire church program by reporting the successes they have had in their own field of labor. Some of our churches are doing, through the pastors and church correspondents, a wonderful job of keeping the Denomination informed as to their activities. A bond of fellowship is thus formed between writer and reader, which, when used more and more by more and more churches, will engender a stronger unity of cooperation, effort and love among the Brethren. The work of our Lord is thus advanced and all are made stronger in Him.—W. S. B.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the above Editorial, we recognize the difference between the sending in of weekly church bulletins and notations from which the Editor writes up the Interesting Items' page, and the Church News Reports, as usually appear on page ten and following pages. It is the latter which we have written about this week.

The "processing" of news reports is made much easier, too, if they come to us neatly typewritten, and DOUBLE SPACED, and on ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY. Paper is cheaper than Editorial or secretarial time. If a typewriter is not available, write plainly using just one side of the paper. **Single spaced or otherwise poorly typed or written copy must be held up until time is available for retyping.**

Favorite Sermons by Brethren Pastors

Rev. Cecil Bolton, Jr.

WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST?

Matthew 22:42

TO EVERY ONE OF US life is a series of questions or decisions. Young people are faced with the questions: Shall I go to college after high school or shall I go to work? What college shall I attend? For what life work shall I prepare myself? How shall I select a life's companion? Young men are faced with the question of when shall they take their military training, what about C.O. duty, etc.? However these questions do not cease with our entrance into adulthood. Are we not everyday faced with many and complex questions and problems?

Important as are the questions that daily confront each one of us, there is one question of utmost importance that every person who reaches the age of accountability must face. Upon the answer to this question depends not only our happiness upon this earth but also determines where we shall spend eternity. This is the question that Jesus asked the Pharisees saying, "What think ye of the Christ?" In this instance He followed it with its companion question, "Whose son is He?"

While this is a question that each of us must answer individually, it might be of help for us to consider the way in which others have answered this all important and all embracing question.

Preached at Cameron, W. Va., Quiet Dell and Johnstown II, Pa., August 14, 1955 and Sarasota, Fla., Sept. 11, 1955.

First, let us turn to one whose life was very intimately touched by the life and influence of Jesus. He was not a believer and he thought that he had the obligation of sitting in judgment upon Christ, but we know that it was rather Christ who sat in judgment upon Pilate. After Pilate had conversed with Jesus he gave to the high priests his answer to this question, "I find no fault in Him at all." I wonder how many of us as Christians can honestly answer with Pilate that we find no fault in Him? Perhaps I need to explain this a little further. Aren't we many times by our words and actions finding fault with Jesus? I know during a period of drought we were all deeply concerned about crop failures and then God, in His wise providence, sent us marvelous rains, but immediately we became concerned about the possibility of too much water. I leave you to think of many other illustrations.

Another man affected by the personality and death of Jesus gave his answer to this question and we hear the Centurion answer in these words, "Truly this was the Son of God." Are we as Christians convinced that "This was and is the Son of God?" If we are, then why don't we live as though we believed it?

But this testimony was not only given by one who saw the great love and compassion manifested by Jesus on the cross when even in His dying agony He had no thought of self, but pleaded for those who were committing this dastardly deed, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." No, the question was answered in the same words by those who were the sworn enemies of Christ even the demons

themselves. Hear them as they say, "This was the Son of God."

Now let us ask the question from one of whom Jesus said there was no greater born of woman. From one who came to prepare the way, to make straight the paths, who was very conscious of his own unworthiness. I refer to John the Baptist. Although we have no record that the question was ever audibly asked this forerunner, it definitely must have been in his mind when he saw Jesus approaching him for he said to those about him, "Behold, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world."

My friends, I am convinced that this is the message that we, ministers and laymen, should be sending out to a lost world today. The world is hungry for us to give them this answer to the question "What think ye of the Christ?" Someone was telling me the story the other day of a minister who went into a new parish and the first sermon he preached was against card playing, so some of his members approached him and told him he had better "lay off" that. The next Sunday he preached against movies and the same thing happened. The next Sunday he preached against dancing and again the same thing. Finally the man cried out in disgust, "I just can't preach against anything." May I make my position clear here? This is not a defense for any of the things I have mentioned, but I do want to raise this question; is there not a danger that we may become so "against certain things" that we lose sight of the need for positive preaching, for proclaiming to the world "Behold, the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world" as our answer to the question, "What think ye of the Christ?"

Then there was the answer of that one who refers to himself as the disciple whom Jesus loved. In no unmistakable tones and words he gives us his answer. Hear John say, "He is the bright and the morning star." Can we see the beauty in Christ that it was given to John to see?

Let us turn now to that disciple whom no one could call a fool and yet who was rushing in where angels might fear to tread. The question in a slightly different form was put directly to impetuous Peter by Jesus, Himself. When his answer was, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus told him that this was revealed to him from the Father which was in heaven. Have you ever had any revelation from the Father concerning Jesus Christ? Because

REV. CECIL BOLTON, Jr.

Peter, even though ever so weak, believed in his answer he was able to testify in such a way as to attract men to this same Jesus. May it not be that our testimony is many times weak because we are not fully convinced that He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God?

Thomas was not with the other disciples when Jesus first presented Himself to them after the resurrection. Being one of those people who only believed what he could behold with his senses Thomas had very logical doubts concerning Jesus and felt that he would have to have indisputable evidence that it really was the Christ. However when Jesus offered him the evidence that he required, Thomas answered the question with which we are concerned by saying, "My Lord and my God." Jesus then told Thomas that he had seen and believed, but greater blessings would be upon those who believed by faith without having actually seen physically. How about us? Must we have a physical manifestation before we can answer, My Lord and My God?

Let us consider yet one more New Testament character and his answer to this question. One who in all sincerity did everything within his power to stamp out this "seditious and erroneous" sect. But then, after he had really met Christ and became in his words, "an apostle out of due season," after he had suffered many things, was able to answer this all important question. Here is his answer: Paul says, "I count all things loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord." If we would have knowledge of the Lord we must expect it to cost us something.

May we turn now to those celestial realms from whence Christ came forth to redeem the world. Let us look for the answer to this question from the very angels in heaven. Yes, they spoke to

shepherds who were watching their flocks, Unto you is born a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

Before we bring this message to a close I feel that there is one more witness we should hear speak to us. He speaks with the voice of authority, for He is the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob. Our Heavenly Father says, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

In conclusion may I say that as far as you and I are concerned it is not important to us how these individuals have replied to this question except as examples and precepts for us. The important thing is how each one of us answers for himself. Yes, you face many questions in this life, but no question is as important to you as this question, "What think ye of the Christ?" Furthermore it is not a question that we can evade or delay. It must be answered and we are answering it every day of our lives. What is your answer?

Cameron, W. Va.

COMING EVENTS

BRYAN, OHIO. Dedication of New Addition and rededication of the whole church building—**Sunday, May 20th, 2:30 P. M. (EST)**—General invitation to the Brotherhood to attend is given. Rev. C. A. Stewart, Guest speaker; Rev. Alvin H. Grumbling, Pastor.

The Southern Indiana District Laymen will be host to the Northern Indiana District in a joint meeting to be held at the Brethren Church in North Manchester, Indiana, Monday Evening, May 21st, 1956.

We especially urge a good attendance from all churches. A number of churches are becoming very lax in their Layman's Organization, so please come and enjoy a good time and receive a real blessing. A fine program will be in store for you.

Supper hour 6:00 to 7:30 prevailing time. Please send reservations to the North Manchester church, Please.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT
CAMP JUNIATA RALLY
Berlin Brethren Church
Friday, June 1, 1956
Banquet 6:30 D. S. T. Price: $1.00
PICTURES, SKITS, TALKS, MUSIC
All interested in Camp invited
Walter C. Wertz, President
Penna. Dist. S. S. Board

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Brother John T. Byler has announced that the Ground Breaking ceremonies for their new Sunday School addition are scheduled for Sunday morning, June 3rd. Mr. Raymond T. Unger, General contractor, and Mr. Ray Yount, Architect, will participate in the services.

On May 8th, the Mother-Daughter banquet was held in the Antioch E. U. B. Church, with the Jr. W. M. S. in charge of the program.

The Dixie Baccalaureate service was held in the New Lebanon church the evening of May 13th. Brother Byler brought the sermon of the evening.

WARSAW, INDIANA. The Laymen's public service is scheduled for May 20th.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. According to the Muncie bulletin, "Bids have been received for the redecorating of the large auditorium and the two vestibules. The Committee hopes to be able to start the work very soon."

HUNTINGTON, INDIANA. Brother Edwin M. Puterbaugh has tendered his resignation as pastor of the Huntington Church effective September 1st.

On April 29th, four young people were baptized and received into the Church.

The Mother-Daughter banquet was held the evening of May 15th.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. The Laymen served the annual Mother-Daughter banquet which was held on May 7th.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Following the morning services on May 20th, a "Kick-off" dinner is scheduled to be held. This is for the entire church, sponsored by the recently appointed Fund Raising Committee for the new educational building.

BURLINGTON, INDIANA. A card from Brother Floyd Sibert reads as follows: "The attendance at our Bible Study and Prayer Service for the last two weeks was 43 and 50 for the two nights April 19 and 26."

"Sunday night April 29th, the High School young people put on a 30 minute opening program for the evening service, including scripture reading, prayer, instrumental music, choir number, and other vocal numbers. The pastor brought the message. Attendance was 84."

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. Seven new members were received on April 8th by baptism.

May 6th was observed as "Rural Life Sunday," with the local Grange attending services of the Brethren Church in a body.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Five were received by baptism on April 26th. Brother H. Francis Berkshire notes that this makes 21 additions to the church since Oct. 1, 1955.

WATERLOO, IOWA. The Vesper Service on May 6th was largely in the hands of the Spring Campers, at which time the young people gave reports of the Central District Spring Camp held at Cerro Gordo, Illinois.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

EASTER IN NIGERIA

AS THE ALARM CLOCK sounded its awakening cry at 5:15 A. M., I lazily turned it off, thinking first that I must be dreaming, then that perhaps Jean had been playing an April Fool joke on me. However, as I became more fully aroused, I realized that the old clock had a purpose in issuing its early-morning warning; then I noticed that Jean too was heeding its call.

This was to be a different day—a special day—an important day for Christians. It was Easter morning. Before long the church bell pealed forth the call announcing the sunrise service, and from all directions people could be seen making their way to the site of the service. (Since hills are our specialty here at Waka, it was not difficult to find a suitable spot for such a service.) It was one overlooking Waka Station, giving a beautiful view of it.

Gradually, but somewhat slowly, the people gathered —some 300 in number—about midway up the hill. At a given signal, while singing an appropriate Easter hymn, we proceeded to the top of the hill and found our seats among the many stones. (Even the stones serve useful purposes at times.) A fine program of music, scripture, prayer and short messages by an African student and a missionary were well received by the group.

The sunrise service was very fine indeed, but the sun didn't shine. The morning was dismal and cloudy with intermittent drizzles that greeted the early worshippers. As I sat and listened to the story of Easter, I thought how much like the first Easter morning this one was. Certainly the first one was everything but happiness and joy—at least until they heard the good news. So it was with us, for when we heard again the good news, "He is not here; He is risen," we became oblivious to the sunless sky. Once again we became conscious of the reality of the living and abiding Christ.

The sunrise service was followed by the annual station breakfast which was eaten in the Shankster home. As we sat down to the table—some 20 of us—and looked at the food, it was difficult to realize that we were in Nigeria. The traditional hard-boiled eggs, ham, doughnuts, hot cross buns, blueberry muffins, cheese biscuits, twist sweet rolls and nut bread were in abundance. Grapefruit cut in the form of baskets were served as an appetizer. Boy, what food! And did we eat! At the conclusion of the meal the group joined in the singing of Easter hymns.

Regular Sunday morning worship services were held with a capacity attendance. Special music, hymns and scripture, along with an excellent message by John Grimley, our guest speaker, constituted a very fine program. To be sure, much of the pomp and ritual which accompany Easter at home were absent, but there was present a spirit of reverence and humility. Our spirits were again rekindled as we listened to the glorious news that "Christ is alive and reigneth forever more."

An evening service was held with Mr. Grimley as the guest speaker. The attendance was good and the message was most encouraging. The theme of the day prevailed in scripture, prayer, song and message.

This was our first Easter in Nigeria, and it was a joyous one. The Easter message is the same wherever it is told. We rejoice that Christ does live and reign in the hearts of many of the Nigerians and that His abiding presence is a reality to them. But there are countless more who do not know and have never heard the Easter message. We invite you to join us in prayer that your Saviour and mine may become theirs.

Your missionaries, The Shanks

FINANCIAL ITEMS

Receipts for April

Foreign Missions	21,706.92
Home missions	580.22
Lost Creek parsonage	40.00
Lost Creek Classroom building	.....
Paid on parsonage building in April	342.70
(Total to date	9,655.01)
Paid on Classroom building in April	3,021.21
(Total to date	11,216.75)

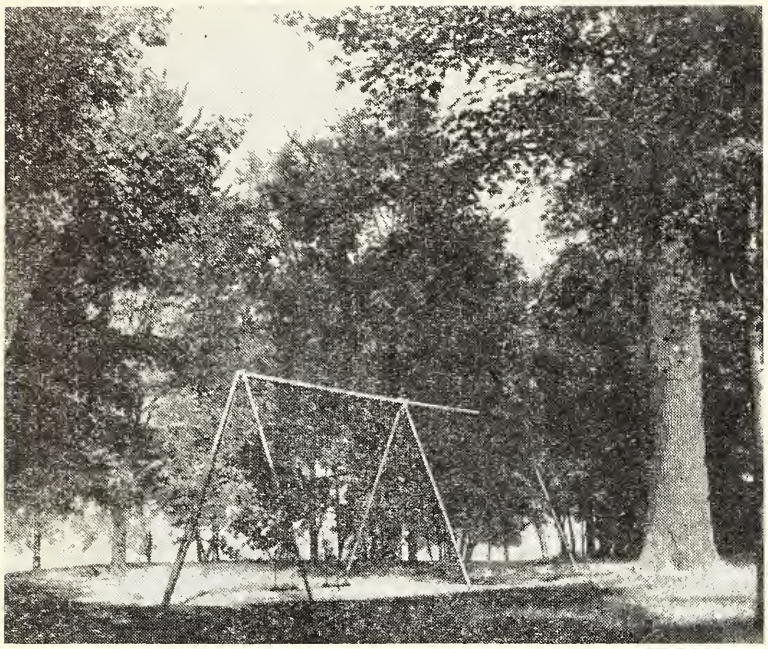
THE WIDOW'S MITE

Recent Ford Foundation gifts have led to numerous attempts to list the largest gifts in history. In response to an inquiry, F. Emerson Andrews, author of "Philanthropic Giving," wrote:

"I should like to nominate for a place among your fifty largest gifts in history the two mites which a lady in Palestine dropped into the collection box nearly two thousand years ago.

"Perhaps you remember what an observer said at the time: 'This poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury, For they all contributed out of the abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living.'

"Indeed, you might wish to put it at the head of the list. Certainly it is one of the largest in terms of capacity to pay. Besides, it has by the power of its example brought to philanthropy many, many millions of dollars, particularly from people of small incomes who nowadays, even statistically, give more than all."—**The Bulletin,** Amer. Assoc. Fund-Raising Counsel



Playground

Linwood Park—Vermillion, Ohio

On the shores of Lake Erie

Entrance to Linwood Park

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OHIO DISTRIC

THE OHIO DISTRICT time of meeting and this year. Because of th of the Ohio District Exe special space this week t

Pictured here are scen near Vermillion, Ohio, o is a E. U. B. Church C equipped as to rooming the Conference, to each for the four day period There will be plenty of are urged to make this with the business and in ence. There will be pro for adults and youth ali

The Conference progr this year. Simultaneous this year, following two and again at 3:45 P. M.,

A more detailed progr Linwood Park, will appe gelist. We urge all Ohio tion to the arrangements welfare and comfort in t ence. W. S. B.

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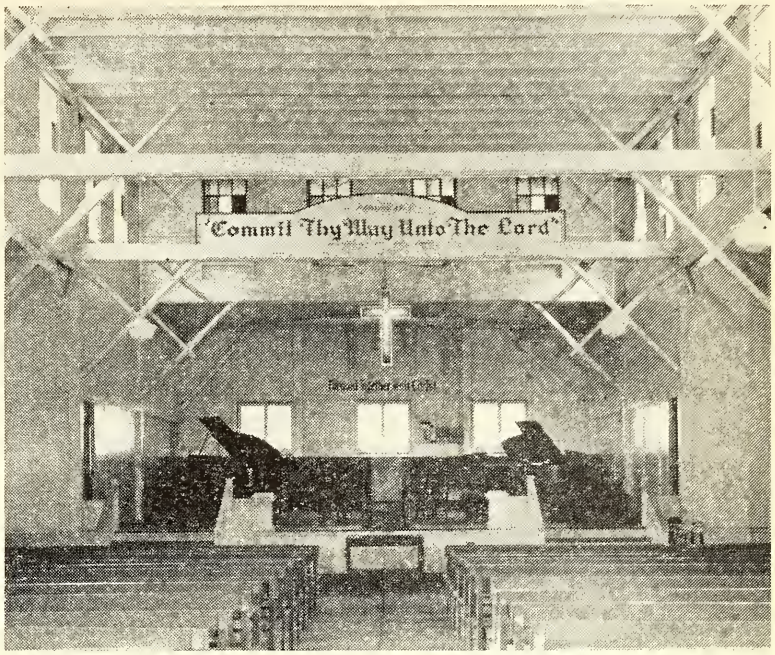

Auditorium interior

July 12-15, 1956

Thursday noon—Sunday noon

ERENCE is changing its
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ommittee, we are giving
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beautiful Linwood Park,
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approximately $12.50.
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ıd recreational facilities

been completely revised
will be at 11:00 A. M.
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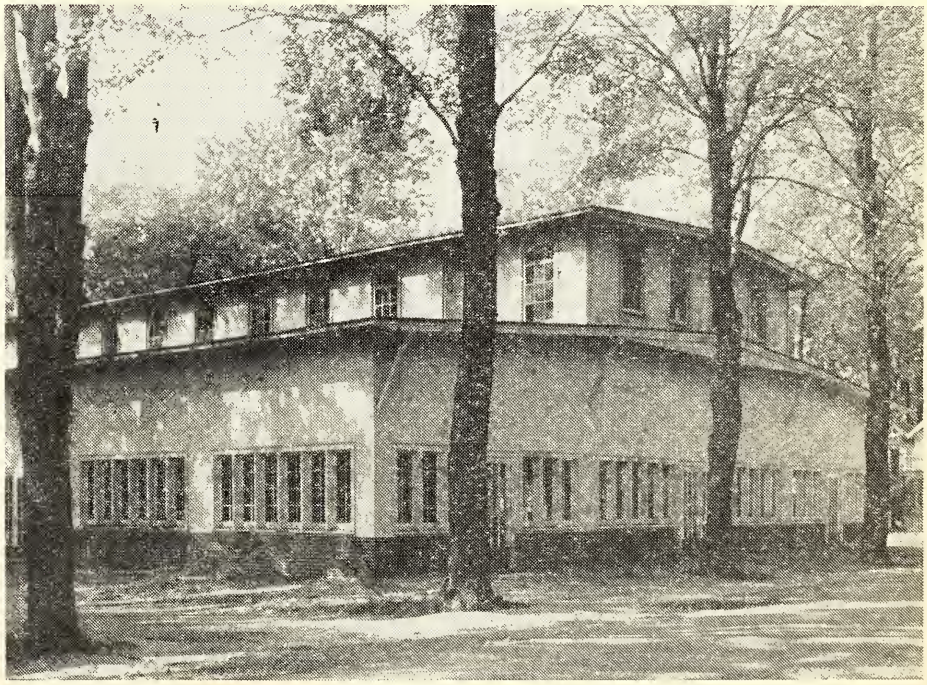

Auditorium, where sessions will be held

News From Our Churches

BRYAN, OHIO, REVIVAL

Splendid attendance, excellent interest, enthusiastic spiritual singing, and prayerful support were outstanding in every service at the two weeks meeting, March 5-18, at which it was my happy privilege to be the evangelist at the Bryan, Ohio, Brethren Church.

During the campaign 52 decisions were made for our Lord. Our hearts were thrilled at the closing Sunday evening service when more than 45 people came to the front of the church to rededicate their lives to the Lord. There were two other rededications during the campaign, and five came forward for first time confession and membership in the church. This is a victory for which we praise the Lord!

During the meeting it was my pleasure to live in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Benner, deacon and deaconess of our church, where hospitality was superb.

Rev. Grumbling is a busy pastor! Besides taking care of pastoral work, our brother is engaged in a very active and progressive physical Church program. The Bryan, Ohio, Church has almost completed the additional class room and sanctuary space as well as moving their parsonage to a more convenient location for pastor and people. This is a tremendous job well done and the church people are to be highly commended.

A great amount of calling was done before and during the meeting, and some splendid results were observed from these personal contacts. During our stay in the city of Bryan, the evangelist accompanied the pastor and his choir to Defiance, Ohio where we had a half-hour program over WONW before the Sunday morning services. The evangelist was the speaker. It was also my pleasure to be guest speaker at the Little Temperance League meeting.

We were pleased to see so many young people in attendance during the meeting. The evangelist told several stories for the young people as they attended in large groups.

Our music was under the very capable direction of Miss Gladys Hineman who also presided at the organ. Mrs. Denver Lockhart presided at the piano. The special numbers from night to night were well chosen and rendered effectively. It was thrilling each night to have the senior choir in their place helping the service as they sang with the congregation. An excellent junior choir was also present several nights and rendered beautiful music for the worship services.

I want to especially thank Rev. and Mrs. Alvin Grumbling for their par-excellent hospitality and the joy of serving Jesus with them; those who were so kind in preparing sumptuous meals for the evangelist and pastor; everyone who performed special services, and all those who attended so faithfully.

I would like to express my gratitude to the church for the very generous love offering. May our dear Lord richly bless every one of you and prosper you in His work. I shall long remember the spiritual fellowship of the Bryan Brethren.

Evangelist J. D. Hamel, South Bend.

LOREE BRETHREN CHURCH, R. R. 1, BUNKER HILL, INDIANA

This report covers a great expanse of territory but less pastoral and church activity than I normally do. The following will briefly explain. Our senior deacon and wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew York, have made a number of visits to California and have spent quite a bit of time there and know the various routes and places of scenic interest and how to reach them. They were kind enough to invite us to accompany them for a two months vacation to California, with our headquarters at Long Beach, with various trips to places of interest.

At first thought it seemed impossible to be absent that long, but we were anxious to go, for we had never seen California and points so far west. On second thought we said to ourselves: we did not take any vacation in 1954 and 55 and now it is 56, so we asked the church to allow us to take this six weeks of vacation in one package and to add two weeks for which we would deduct our salary, to which they kindly consented.

We left on January 16th, traveling the southern route, but encountered more ice and snow in Arkansas and Texas than at any time or place. The high point of wonder going out was Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. Such a stupendous sight of beautiful formations and the immensity of it was beyond your most fantastic imagination. At one point the guide points out the "Bottomless Pit" which he said was 138 feet down and the ceiling at that place was 285 feet above where we were standing. We spent our first Sunday at Elpaso, Texas and then only a few hours across the border into Old Mexico. Next to Tucson, Arizona, where we visited Rev. Grisso, who took us through the church. Sorry we could not spend a Sunday with them. They have a splendid location, with building going up all around the church. People by the thousands are moving into Tucson and Phoenix, the two fastest growing cities in the U. S. So said Mr. Raymond Kuns, who moved to Tucson several years ago for health reasons, but who is now a prominent citizen and builder of houses. I was his pastor for ten years in South Bend; it was a great joy to be in their lovely home.

We went from Tucson to Phoenix, and passing through, called on Mr. and Mrs. Tom Moore, 4820 E. Fairmount; a couple I had married at South Bend. Next we went to San Diego where we spent 6 days waiting for rains to slacken farther north. Then to Long Beach where we had an apartment till we started for home. Time was spent visiting friends and relatives we had not seen for many years. Visiting the First Brethren church at Long Beach, we met several who were formerly members of the Hamlin, Kans. Brethren church where I served my first pastorate and had not seen for more than 30 years, two of my brothers I had not seen for 20 years and other friends of long standing.

From Long Beach we went to Fresno to visit my brother Earl and on to Manteca to visit Rev. and Mrs. Gilmer, and Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Platt. Rev. Platt said

when the Manteca church was organized the population of the village was less than 100 and is now over 6000 and 400 new homes are being built. Rev. Platt was pastor of the Manteca church for 42 years. Rev. Gilmer is now the pastor and Rev. Platt is pastor at Lathrop, only a few miles distant. Stockton, I believe is about 20 miles from Manteca. We were indeed glad to see these churches and meet some of their members personally. Rev. Cecil Johnson lives rather close to the Manteca church and we were served a luscious Sunday dinner in their home, before we traveled on to Berkeley where we visited my mother's brother, Rev. H. A. Browning and wife.

While visiting at the Gilmers and Platts they insisted that I come back and preach some for them which I consented to do, spending a week with them, one evening speaking at their organizational meeting of the laymen at Manteca and five services at the Lathrop church with Rev. Platt. It was a genuine pleasure to meet these congregations in their service of worship. May the dear Lord richly bless and prosper them. We need many more churches in this state where people are moving by the thousands.

We left Long Beach on Mar. the fifth, via Palm Springs, Boulder City, seeing Hoover Dam and peeped in on that notorious gambling center of this nation, Las Vegas, Nev., on to the Grand Canyon and on east through Texas and Oklahoma, where we visited a sister we had not seen since our mother's death, 12 years ago. On through Missouri into Illinois, at St. Louis and to my son Ward and family for our last night away from home. A very delightful journey with a very companionable couple, however it was good to be back home.

Supply ministers were: Chaplain Morgan from the Bunker Hill Air Force Base, Rev. Forrest Hostetler, Church of the Brethren minister, Dean Russell Bollinger, North Manchester college and Rev. W. C. Berkshire, secretary of our missionary board.

Our first Sunday at home the 18th of March and then Palm Sunday with three nights of preaching emphasizing the three great doctrinal truths symbolized in the holy sacraments which constitute our observance of holy communion: Cleansing from sin and how we need to constantly remind ourselves of this vital need; Fellowship, the Love Feast, the family of God, seated around the Lord's table, eating in holy love and sweet fellowship, every sin forgiven, every heart cleansed, we may then and only then hold communion with God; Communion, the holy Eucharist, the broken body and shed blood of our Lord, "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood ye have no life in you." This and this only is real communion with God. These vital doctrines we sought to make plain and then observe the blessed sacraments on Thursday evening before Good Friday. The attendance was fair and the spirit very blessed. Easter Sunday morning gave us our largest attendance since we have been at Loree, with no special attraction, only our regular service, with 242 in S. S.; our average attendance is about 170. The evening service our choir rendered the lovely Cantata, "The Saviour Lives." The choir also presented this fine Easter cantata in the chapel of the Bunker Hill Air Force Base at seven o'clock on Easter morning. Loree has a splendid choir. Under the leadership of Mrs. Joan Bargerhuff and accompanied by Mrs. Bessie Lippold at the piano and Ronald LeMaster at the organ, they add much to our worship program. Two were received into the church and one is waiting baptism; we should have several others soon.

Loree is not a center of population, but strictly a rural church with a full time program, but the prospect list is not like the number available where there are thousands of people near you. We shall complete five years of pastoral work here by the first of September and withdrew our name for consideration at the annual meeting when it is routine business to vote on the pastor. Not that we feel like retiring, for the clinic check up gives us a perfect score and we feel as vigorous as at any time, and our memory seems to function as readily and accurately as at any time. So, we would feel that we were doing wrong to retire and shall be glad to consider another field. There are so many places where new churches must be built to serve our shifting population. A rather long report but we thought our many friends would appreciate a personal report as well as a church report. Grace be to all the brethren.

Claud Studebaker.

MEETINGS AT MEYERSDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The week of March 25th to 30th was one of great joy and inspiration to the Meyersdale Brethren. Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, who had just completed a week of services in Berlin, drove the 10 scenic miles to Meyersdale for another week of Evangelistic Services there.

For several weeks preceding, the church had been preparing for his arrival. Special prayer services were held each Sunday evening. The pastor had maintained a heavy calling schedule. Others had been visiting. And then the final week before Brother Klingensmith arrived, a number of teams of evangelistic visitors made about 40 calls on prospects and inactive members, obtaining three commitments to Christ and four decisions to transfer letters of church membership.

The week of services began on Palm Sunday with a good opening attendance—and we rejoiced to see the interest hold steady throughout the week. Brother Klingensmith won the hearts of the people from the start. His messages were well received and their spiritual impact felt by all. By week's end, nine young people and children, and one mother, had confessed Christ as their Savior, and one young woman had rededicated her life to Christian service. It was a glorious experience for the pastor and the congregation when those ten received the ordinance of baptism on Easter morning.

As you must have gathered by now, the Meyersdale Brethren feel that they were fortunate to have had the services of Brother Ray, and believe that the spiritual impact of his short ministry will continue to bear fruit in this church for years to come.

We pray, and ask you to pray with us, that the spirit of revival which has been kindled in our church will be fanned into flame by the united efforts and prayers of a church seeking to do the work of her Lord, and that this spirit will spread throughout the church and out into the Brotherhood.

Horace Huse, Pastor.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"I AM HABIT"

"It is mighty hard to shake me;
In my brawny arms I take thee;
I can either make or break thee;
I am Habit!

"Though each day I slowly mold thee;
Soon my tightening chains enfold thee;
Then it is with ease I hold thee;
I am Habit!

"I can be both good and vile;
I can e'er be worth your while;
Or the cause of your decrial;
I am Habit!

"Oft I've proved myself a pleasure;
Proved myself a priceless treasure,
Or a menace past all measure;
I am Habit!

"Harmless though I sometimes seem, yet
My strange force is like a magnet;
Like a great and greedy dragnet;
I am Habit!

"Though you sometimes fear or doubt me,
No one yet has lived without me;
I am present all about thee;
I am Habit!

"Choose me well when you are starting;
Seldom is an easy parting;
I'm a devil or a darling!
I am Habit!"

—Author Unknown.

SINCE "MAN IS A BUNDLE OF HABITS," we are to put God first in our habits else He cannot be first in our lives (1 Cor. 10:31). In forming our habits we should put "FIRST THINGS FIRST," because we first make our habits and then they make us (Matt. 6:33). Habit is the deepest law of human nature, and becomes a truly second nature. Worldly habits lend us to the devil (1 John 2:15, 16), but godly habits make us serviceable unto God (Col. 3:17). The habits of time are the soul's dress for eternity (1 Thess. 5:23). A large part of Christian virtue consists in good habits (1 Peter 1:5-9).

Bad habits are infectious by example (1 Cor. 10:21, 23, 31). We not only need to watch our own habit forming (1 Cor. 6:12, 19, 20), but also the habit forming of others (1 Thess. 5:22). Children have impulses which develop into the habits of adults (1 Cor. 8:9, 11-13). Adults should therefore lay aside every questionable habit for the sake of the young and their future (Heb. 12:1, 2). Habits that defile the human body will bring God's judgment on the soul (1 Cor. 3:17). Our bodies have been purchased for good habits and for the indwelling of the Spirit of God (1 Cor. 6:19, 20).

"Sow an act, and you reap a habit;
Sow a habit, and you reap a character;
Sow a character, and you reap a destiny."

The most wretched of persons is one who loathes a long practiced vice and yet helpless clings to it (Prov. 23:35).

"I trust everything, under God, to habit . . . Make sobriety a habit and intemperance will be hateful and hard (Dan. 1:8); make prudence a habit, and reckless profligacy will be as contrary to the nature of the child, grown to be an adult, as the most atrocious crime(Prov. 22:6)."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for May 27, 1956

THE CHURCH IN ASIA MINOR

Lesson: Acts 13:1-4, 44-49

GUY L. MORRILL tells of a Sunday School class of boys, who, after studying stewardship, were asked to write out what they thought stewardship meant. One boy wrote: "Stewardship means that life is a great ship, loaded with a rich cargo of many things to be delivered to many peoples in many places. God is the owner, but I am the captain of the ship."

The disciples in the Early Church considered themselves **"captains"** of the things which they possessed —not **"owners."** They realized that GOD was the **"Owner"** of their lives and of all their earthly possessions! This included the Gospel which they had received. It did not belong to them to keep unto themselves. It was entrusted to them to be imparted to others. They took their task seriously.

Remember again that Jesus had said, "Ye shall be witnesses unto Me." Jesus even stated where they were to witness: "In Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

With this in mind it is evident that the Book of Acts is a record of the disciples' activities as they attempted to obey the command of Jesus. Therefore, it can be divided as follows:

1. Chapters 1-7—The Disciples witnessing in Jerusalem.

2. Chapters 8-12—The Disciples Witnessing in Judea and Samaria.

3. Chapters 13-28—The Disciples Witnessing unto the Uttermost Parts of the Earth.

Today's lesson is concerned with this last phase of the book.

Is it not remarkable that out of the Antiochian Church came the first real Christian missionaries? It is true there were others before this who went about witnessing,

and thus could be classified as missionaries. However, it was in the Gentile Church at Antioch that the Holy Spirit spake and said: "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul, for the work to which I have called them" (Williams—Acts 13:2).

Notice, please, that a missionary is **not** called by a church or a people. **The Call of the Gospel must come from God!** Christian people, however, do have a vital part in this ministry. You will note the call came to Saul and Barnabas **while the church was "worshipping the Lord and fasting"** (Williams— Acts 13:2).

The Brethren Church, along with many other denominations, sadly laments the fact that so few within her ranks are hearing the call of God for full-time ministry both at home and abroad. We are urged by our leaders (and rightly so) to be on the look-out for potential workers in God's vineyard.

What is the reason for our lack of ministers and missionaries? **May this humble servant suggest that part of the blame should be laid at the feet of our churches! If our churches would spend more time "worshipping the Lord and fasting," we might well hear the Holy Spirit say: "Set apart for Me, John, and Donald, and Peter, and Mary, and Barbara, for the work whereunto I have called them."**

And then it may well be that we Brethren pastors have so failed in our task of spiritual ministry, that the Brethren Church has produced spiritual weaklings whom God cannot use!

God is not looking for **mighty** men, but **consecrated** men; not **influential** men, but **Spirit-filled** men! The world is waiting for the Gospel. There is not much time left. If the world will ever hear, they must hear NOW!

"Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest" (Matt. 9:38).

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN" CHRISTIANITY

RECENTLY I was set to thinking by a passage in a little book for youth which I was reading. The title of the book is "The Price and the Prize," by Culbert G. Rutenber, a Baptist, and a professor of Philosophy of Religion. The passage is in the first chapter of his book where he intends to set the reader to thinking about what kind of Christianity we Americans like as compared with what we ought to have.

He takes his thought from Canon Theodore Wedel, "The Christianity of Main Street," where the author had stated that the type of "Christianity" which has been most popular during the Twentieth Century might be called the "log cabin-to-White House approach." This is especially typical of our day of seeking security and success. Personal accomplishment and advancement is the all-important thing to the young people now in training. The ideal is none other than the log-cabin president, Abraham Lincoln. He began as a rail-splitter who lived in cabins and worked up to the chair of the President of the United States. To Americans this is the greatest of accomplishments. And the goodness and sincerity of Lincoln are symbolic throughout our great land.

THE IMPRESSIONS WE MAKE

Too often we teach our youth this type of "Abraham Lincoln" Christianity. We give the impression that we are to be religious for some personal advancement or success. It becomes a moral and social success story. We quote the "great" men of by-gone days who "believed" in a God—sometimes without the knowledge that the man we quote may not have even accepted Christ as Saviour—just as the cigarette manufacturers placard the photographs of great actors and sportsmen on magazines holding their brand of product. It insinuates that to use their product is to be in company with the "greats." Now if Abraham Lincoln was a Christian, and he ascended to the White House and freed the slaves of America, perhaps God has something for **you** to accomplish.

Without intending to, we make Jesus Christ a sort of glorified Abraham Lincoln. He started out in life in a manger, but ended up on a throne. And for two thousand years He has **lived on in the hearts** of men throughout the world. A great success story! But we forget that He really "ended up" on a Cross! As far as the people of His day were concerned He was a colossal failure as a Saviour. From a manger to a Cross, poor Man! He couldn't even purchase a home. He even left the one business which He had learned, the carpenter's trade.

Dr. Rutenber says that the "log cabin-to-White House type of approach might be called a religion of 'in order that.'" The Christian has high ideals and serves others and follows Christ "in order that" he may some day go to heaven. The prayers of this type of Christian are "God **help** us," "God **be with us**." He is hopeful that God, while He keeps the score in our successes and failures, will regard carefully our successes and sort of forget to mark down many of our failures. After all, we are **all** human down here, and God **knows** that.

LINCOLN IN REVERSE

But, points out Dr. Rutenber, what we need is a "White House-to-log cabin approach." This, he says, is a "Because of" religion. I John 4:19 reads, "We love him, because he first loved us." The hero of the story is now a man of successful living, but all-loving God. He is the one who gave the blood, sweat, tears. And because He did, we owe Him ourselves, our praise and thanks.

The author of this little book, which I recommend to every Brethren Youth, and youth worker, likens the Christian to one who has been saved from drowning by a Life Guard. A boy is unable to swim, and is about to drown. His brother on the bank could give instructions as to how the drowning one might execute a crawl stroke, but that would be fatal! He could leap into the water and bid him follow, but that would be fatal too! He could leap in and save him—and that Jesus did for the sinner! The drowning one could spend his life saying "thank you," but Jesus would reply, "See to it that your life was worth the saving."

We will get farther when we start giving our youth "Lincoln in reverse" Christianity!

NEWS FROM KUNSAN, KOREA

Eugene J. Beekley, Chap. (1 Lt.) USAF.

GREETINGS FROM KUNSAN, KOREA, where we are surrounded on three sides by the Yellow Sea, cooled by the Siberian winds and intrigued by the rice paddies and Korean villages everywhere. Easter Sunday we had a fine service but because of a heavy rain, our chapel which seats 300, was not full as we had expected. The rain stopped after church and I flew to another base where they have no Chaplain and conducted their Easter service for them and then flew to Pusan on the South East coast of Korea to another base where there is no Chaplain. I remained overnight, visited a UN cemetery where men from 21 nations are buried and then flew back to K 8 Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday I flew to Japan and spent several days purchasing supplies for our chapel and went sightseeing, returning to K 8 Saturday afternoon.

Our chapel work is just like any Church Stateside except for the absence of women and children. We have two civil service American women on base who attend chapel every Sunday. Our Chapel choir is exceptionally good with 6 Korean girls and 18 officers and airmen. The entire service is broadcast over Radio Mercury AFKN and missionaries in South Korea tune in to our service. I also have a 15 minute Saturday night radio program. We have a NNIT (Neutral Nation Inspection Team) here made up of Swedes, Czechoslovakians, Poles and Swiss members and the Swedes and Swiss attend chapel. They are under constant guard because of recent Korean demonstrations against them in their country.

Time goes rather fast and I probably will be back in Florida with my family next December. Besides my daily Chaplain activities I teach English classes on Monday and Wednesday nights for two hours, have choir rehearsal Thursday night and Bible study on Friday night. In addition I have a 15 minute daily devotional program for officers and airmen in the Chapel at 0745 hours each morning before going to work.

Another part of my work involves the eleven (11) orphanages in Kunsan. Because of poverty many babies are left on the street near these orphanages so their work is never done. Stateside agencies and some denominations send some support but all clothing, similac or money from individuals goes through my office. I wish that you could see the looks of joy and happiness when I take a jeep load of clothes or similac to them. They make every gift go a long way and nothing is wasted. Winter is severe, heating is poor and American discarded clothing helps keep many children alive. Thousands of North Korean refugees have crowded into Kunsan and living conditions are very insufficient. If any readers of the Brethren Evangelist would like to send clothing for needy children just send it to me through APO 64 San Francisco, Cal., and I will gladly see that it is delivered to them. Any money that comes I use to buy rice for the orphanages where the youngest children are kept for they cannot provide anything for themselves.

One of my recent projects has been to help a Protestant Church of refugee people. Their church building was originally purchased and remodeled through GI generosity but the front wall had crumbled and the roof leaked, which is a serious thing here for it rains so hard and so long. Therefore, we hired a contractor with our Chapel Funds and built a new brick front wall and repaired the roof. Needless to say, the pastor and congregation are very thankful. Their Pastor, Rev. Son Taok Koo speaks fairly good English so I am going to preach for him and he will be my interpreter, some Sunday night of April.

Korean Christians are very faithful but they have little opportunity to do much because of lack of money, scarcity of building material and the long hours they must work to survive. The tax on rice alone is 6 bags out of every ten they produce. Even so, their church attendance is high. One takes off his shoes and sits on the cold floor. Home floors are warm and spotless but church floors are clean and cold. Their hymns are the same as we would sing in our churches and only the words sound different.

Finally, parents, wives and churches should keep in touch with their servicemen. I have seen men cry because of no mail from home. Being this far from home, family and church makes homesickness serious. Any letter with good news from home performs miracles. Many men show me their home church bulletins or church paper because of their pride in their church and the fact that they have not been forgotten. Take time to write the servicemen that you know or are members of your church.

It is impossible for me to answer all the letters that have come from Brethren friends so I hope that these few paragraphs will give you an idea of my work and let you know that the work of the Lord goes forward in many lands.

In His Service,

Eugene J. Beekley, Chap. (1 Lt.) USAF.

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING DAY

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1956

Goal—$8,500.00

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

WHY NOT SAY SO?

MR. ZIMMERMAN, the little old gentleman who takes care of the College chapel building, simply beamed as he walked on home after I spoke to him. All I said was, "Goodness, Mr. Z., you certainly do a fine job of caring for our chapel"—and it is very true: he does. I was quite sincere in my comment, but hearing my praise seemingly meant much to this conscientious little gentleman.

The incident set me to thinking—as I often do—that in our busy days we do far too little expressing of praise, appreciation and commendation, when we might easily and sincerely do it. (Incidentally, I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to a very good friend who has made me more conscious of the value of appreciation, because of that friend's habit of expressing it.)

When our children were small, I observed many times that if I praised one of them for some job well done, he or she took on a sort of glow; the tasks that followed were done better and more enthusiastically.

Occasionally, you feel grateful that the filling station attendant gives you fine service; that your Sunday school teacher causes you to take some of your timeworn ideas out of moth balls and scrutinize them carefully; or that your husband shows fine consideration for you by switching the TV from a Western thriller to your favorite program when you come in the room; then why not tell them so? (Perhaps you do, and if you do, I'm sure the angels must smile.) It gives such a good feeling—both to the giver and to the receiver of the gratitude.

I recall with a thrill some of the praise that has been given to me after hard work—it made me feel all "shiny" inside—and I know others have experienced the same "shiny-ness" under similar circumstances. Words of praise for our efforts sound to us like notes of a symphony to music-loving ears, and they are so simple to provide. Needless to say though, they must be sincere, or they will not ring true.

Words of commendation will put a spring into one's step, give him new zeal and brighten his whole outlook; in fact, such heartening expressions act as the most effective catalysts in the process of human performance. What a pity we don't use them more often!

Let's make a practice of noticing and appreciating excellent performance in others, then expressing these observations and feelings. The results will be excellent and far reaching.

Do you think someone you encounter is doing a task unselfishly, admirably or unusually well? Then—**why not say so?**

Mrs. Ida Lindower,
Ashland, Ohio.

PRAYER

If there is hope for the future of America, if there is to be peace and happiness in our homes, then we, as a nation, must return to God and to the practice of daily family prayer.

Can we build homes without God, or have worthy parents who do not know and practice His teachings?

Our nation is sadly in need of a rebirth of the simple life—a return to the days when God was a part of each household, when families arose in the morning with a prayer on their lips, and ended the day by gathering together to place themselves in His care.

As our nation grew and prospered, as it overcame vicissitudes and adversities, its people never lost faith in a personal God.

Our generation, it seems, has allowed old, faithful religious practices to slip into oblivion. As a result, family life has been weakened and the nation has suffered.

A godless home is built upon sand; it is an inviting breeding ground for moral decay and crime. My hope for the future of this nation is predicated upon the faith in God which is nurtured in the family.—J. Edgar Hoover.

A CURE FOR MISERY

"When you find yourself overpowered with melancholy," said a saintly man, "the best way is to go out and do something kind to somebody. Thousands who today are sitting daily in the gloom of a self-created misery would soon lose it if they began to care for others." One quaint writer says concerning this: "When I dig a man out of trouble, I turn the hole he leaves behind him into a grave in which I bury my own trouble."—Sel.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

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June 11th—14th Rev. Robert K. Higgins, Moderator

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: **Oak Hill, West Virginia**

June 19th—21st Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, Moderator

OHIO DISTRICT: **Linwood Park, Vermillion, Ohio**

July 12th—15th Rev. John T. Byler, Moderator

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT:

Third Church, Johnstown, Penna.

July 16th—19th Rev. Lyle Lichtenberger, Moderator

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Items of General Interest

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Congratulations are in order for Lois Shanholtz, daughter of Brother and Sister Bruce C. Shanholtz. Lois is the Maryland State winner in the recent Christian Citizenship Contest sponsored by the International Society of Christian Endeavor. Winner in Class A (contestants in High School), her picture, along with other state winners, appears in the May 1956 issue of The Christian Endeavor World. Again we say, "Congratulations, Lois, on your fine achievement."

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Brother Freeman Ankrum notes that they baptized 17 on the afternoon of May 6th, 15 of them came out during their recent meeting when Brother L. V. King was evangelist.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. The S. M. M. presented their public program the morning of May 14th. Ann Sawyer Berkley was their speaker.

BERLIN, PENNA. Brother Lyle Lichtenberger notes attendances of 250 in S. S., 220 in morning worship and 250 at evening service, on May 6th. Special speakers were the Bischofs. Brother Lichtenberger says, "Services were excellent, offering very good; services that Brethren can be proud of."

At the Mother-Daughter banquet held earlier that week there was an attendance of 150.

Brother Lichtenberger notes also that they have concluded their Teacher Training class, with graduation exercises on May 20th, graduating 21; nine laymen and twelve lay women.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Brother Robert Hoffman reports three new members received into the church on May 6th.

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL. Brother H. William Fells is seeking information about any church that might have eight 15 foot straight pews they would like to give to the Garber Memorial Mission. Brother Fells says that there is a truck available to haul them from your church to the Garber Mission in Ashland.

Brother Fells reports that attendance for regular morning services is running around 80, and there is definitely a need for some additional seating, as he adds, "since we're just getting started."

Five were baptized the afternoon of May 13th, with three more waiting to be baptized.

NEW PARIS, INDIANA. The Mother-Daughter banquet was held the evening of May 10th. A very acceptable program was given, we learned through Pastor E. M. Riddle.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates, in a note to the Editor says, "C. C. Grisso is coming along very well. Is able to be out some." Continue to remember our brother in prayer. Ed.

The North Manchester church was host to the Indiana Laymen's Rally the evening of May 21st.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. Brother H. H. Rowsey writes, "Brother Willis E. Ronk did excellent work for us in special meetings here April 1-8. Seven were received into church membership by baptism but that tells only a small fraction of the story. The entire church was benefited by Brother Ronk's Biblical messages. Most of his message included references to Brethren teachings which were especially helpful."

COMING EVENTS

NORTHEASTERN OHIO DISTRICT
BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY
Firestone Park Brethren—Akron, Ohio
Sunday, May 27th
Registration—2:00-2:30 D. S. T.
Rev. Elmer Brumbaugh, Juvenile Delinquent Youth Counsellor for Summit County, afternoon and evening speaker.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT
CAMP JUNIATA RALLY
Berlin Brethren Church
Friday, June 1, 1956
Banquet 6:30 D. S. T. Price: $1.00
PICTURES, SKITS, TALKS, MUSIC
All interested in Camp invited
Walter C. Wertz, President
Penna. Dist. S. S. Board

DISTRICT CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

Beginning next week, in the EVANGELIST, we will start bringing to you the various district programs of our Conferences which meet this summer, as announced on the front page of this EVANGELIST.

Four of our Conferences meet the next two months; our Western Conferences meet, two in October, and one in January.

The Editor's Pulpit

From Whence Cometh Our Help

IT HAPPENED during World War II. A father, who was also a minister, was quite concerned about the welfare of a boy of his who was in the armed forces.

Something of the concern of the father filtered through to the boy, who then wrote his father, saying, "Take hold of some of that faith you are telling other people about, and hang on!"

We are not minimizing the danger that accompanied that devastating war. We are not overlooking the fact that many parents, wives and children had to accept a terse telegram from the War Department in lieu of the welcome return of their loved one. Those were sad days.

After a decade we still find ourselves in a way of life fraught with fears, uncertainties, and heart breaks. So much so, that we must ask ourselves the question, "Is there no end?"

Study the lives of your parents, grandparents. Listen to the woe and cry of your friends. Analyze your own life. A frank appraisal will convince the most carefree of us all that lasting sesecurity and lasting stability in this life is an elusive will o' the wisp. Even in the midst of apparent prosperity, health and happiness, there is that undercurrent, that tremor, which teaches us that life has its other side. But let us not dwell longer on this. To do so, would be to sleep in the same berth with the man who once said that the world was going to the dogs, and there wasn't much one could do about it.

This is the day in which we must take some of that faith which we profess as Christians, hold on, and launch out! Die if you must, but die trying. There has never been a better day in which to live.

The Psalmist gave us some wonderful words by which to live. He said, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." Here he looked to material things for a moment. He looked to the hills. He recognized that in all of earth's apparent security, strength and organization, there was no help for his real needs. Distress of soul, anguish of mind, fears of the tomorrow, could not be calmed. He must look further. For a moment he wavered as he realized the inability of earthly things to bring peace. Then he cried forth with the grand assurance that must have rung the great bells of heaven as he said, "My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth."

This 121st Psalm then continues the theme in a progressive way. One who looks to God for help will find that God does not slumber. Any hour of the day or night, He is there to watch over us, to hear our prayers. We cannot live a life apart from woes and trials, but He is present to keep us from falling. With a complete trust in Him, we shall be preserved from the power of evil; our soul shall be preserved. We shall be kept forevermore.

It's easy to speak like this when one is feeling good. Then faith can be a shadowy power in the background of our lives, easy to profess and talk about. Spring the trap door of adversity beneath us, and we are plunged into the depths where faith must become real, or everything is lost. That's what we mean when we say, Take hold of your faith and hang on. Any honest Christian will admit of times when life presented blows which for the time being left nothing but faith in God on which to hang. That's when the words, "My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth," become dynamic and powerful in meaning and reality to us.

Secure as you may feel in today's circumstances, better be certain that you have a full measure of Christian faith to hold you now, and when the going gets rough. W. S. B.

The Inspiration of a Life of Prayer

Rev. H. William Fells

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATTHEW 26:36-46

MANY DEFINITIONS have been given for prayer and perhaps there is a great deal of truth in every definition. But this morning, we would not define prayer for you, we would rather inspire you to a life of prayer similar to that of the Master. We feel definitely that the answer to the problems of the world today are found in such Scripture verses as II Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked way; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Dr. Charles Fuller, of the Old Fashioned Revival Hour Radio Program, in his paper entitled Heart to Heart Talk, for February 1956, paraphrases a scripture verse and finds this wonderful lesson, Quote, "He that SAVETH his time from Prayer, shall lose it. And he that LOSETH his time FOR COMMUNION WITH GOD shall FIND it in BLESSING."

With these thoughts in mind regarding prayer and its value for us today let us consider the verses read in your hearing from Matthew 26. Here we see the Master entering the garden with his disciples. But from whence had they come? They had just been united in the upper room for the last supper. It was here that the Lord taught many things. Among them: Humility through the feet washing service. The observance of the Lord's Supper by the Church. There is none other name given under heaven whereby man can be saved, than His. There is salvation in none other. And this salvation is only for those who believe on His name without reservation. Service to the Holy God is the greatest thing that can consume the lives of human beings here in this life.

What had been the effect upon the disciples? When the statement was made that one of these who had traveled with Him for these three and one-half years would betray Him, the disciples sat stunned and then began asking, "Is it I?" Jesus has told one of them that he would deny Him yet that night and that one had answered, "Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee." And then all the other ten, for the one who was to betray Him, had left and gone out to do so, began to say the same thing. None of them could be guilty of denying Him, let alone betraying Him, yet before the next few hours were over that is exactly what would happen.

This is the background against which Jesus of Nazareth entered in the Agony of Gethsemane on this the darkest night in the history of all mankind. The eight disciples were left at the gate, and the three that seemed to follow closest were invited to go into the Garden with the Lord. These three, Peter, and James and John were the ones taken up on the mount of Transfiguration. They had had the mountain top experience of being in the presence of Moses and Elijah and Jesus in the transfigured Lord, but this had not prepared them for this moment.

Jesus felt the weight of the entire world upon His shoulders at this hour. And He knew that He must bear this cross alone, so He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed. This one who claimed to be the Divine Son of God had spent a great deal of time in preparation

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(One in a series of radio messages given over WATG, Ashland, Ohio, during March 1956.)

for this experience that was to come to Him. Having worked as a carpenter for some 18 years, building a strong healthy body that would be able to stand the strain that was to be put upon it, such as going without sleep and food, being whipped with a cat of nine tails, having his back laid bare. But above this He had spent long nights in the mountain praying and in fellowship with His Father in Heaven that He might know upon whom to call in the hour of crises.

The first time that Jesus went a little farther and prayed we see all of His humanity showing clearly, when He said, Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. Then He returned to where His disciples, those three who seemed to be closest to Him, lay sleeping. How His heart must have cried, "I am all alone." And He awakened the disciples to ask if they could not watch with Him one hour.

Then He returned to that spot, but this time He prayed a different prayer. It was a prayer of resignation to the Father's will, "Father, if this cup may not pass away from me except I drink it, thy will be done." And again, after sweating, as it were, great drops of blood, He returned to find the disciples asleep again. This time His heart was so heavy that He did not awaken them but returned once again to His own spot. And again the prayer of complete resignation to the Father's will, without any hesitancy, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away except I drink it, Thy Will Be Done."

Then, and only then, was He ready to return to the sleeping disciples and after telling them to sleep on, He awakened them with the words, Behold the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

With all of our definitions of prayer, communion with God, petition to God, the soul's sincere desire to express to God the feelings within one's breast, are we truly able to pray as He did, Not my will but thine be done.

You who have burdens that no one else knows of today, sickness in the family, loved ones on death beds, trouble between members of the family, those of you who are about to be united in marriage with the one you have chosen to live with until death do you part, those of you who are about to become parents, those of you who are parents already and are driven to distraction with the problems of being parents, you, no matter what your situation is today, even if you feel as though the whole world rested on your shoulders, you who have left those three or so who mean the most to you, and you have gone, in all your humanity, to God, with your petitions, to try and find God's protection and guidance, have you sincerely and without reservation prayed NOT MY WILL BUT THINE BE DONE? Are you willing to lose that loved one so cherished by you just now? Are you willing that God should intervene in your plans for marriage or for the plans for little ones in your home? What ever it may be, go with the Master into the Garden of Gethsemane and pray NOT MY WILL BUT THINE BE DONE. Therein and only therein can you have the peace in your soul that you so much desire.

Ashland, Ohio.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

NECESSITY AND OPPORTUNITY

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the goodness and power of God as we review the work of the past year and plan the missionary program for the coming year. This can be termed both a happy time and a sad time for the office staff and for the Board members.

It is happy because we are reminded of the year's accomplishments and the growing stewardship in the churches at home, in Argentina and in Nigeria as we go over the reports. Deeds of love and mercy as well as messages of love and mercy have brought new hope to many. These in turn are being trained to take their places in Christian service. All this tells something of the thrilling story of witnessing for Christ at home and abroad.

But these reports also sound the heart-cry of missionaries and mission pastors for reinforcements. Descriptions are given of open doors where opportunities have come to the Brethren.

From both Argentina and Nigeria the appeal is the same: "We need missionaries." The types of missionaries needed are different in these two fields, but in general there is a need for teachers, nurses, seminary-trained men, technicians and other well-qualified people to create literature and to train nationals in Sunday school work and in general church leadership. Along with the appeal for missionaries is the appeal for resources to provide adequate headquarters' facilities, schools, residences and other needed buildings.

In the homeland likewise there is an appeal for workers in Kentucky and for pastors to carry on the task of establishing new Brethren churches in good prospective areas. Here again we have an appeal for funds to carry out the home mission and church extension work.

It is at this point that sadness fills our hearts, for we recognize how multiplied the victories would be if resources could be provided. The fact is that at present we have neither the men nor the money to do all that needs to be done.

Advance, however, marches on. More missionary candidates are being trained than ever before, and more funds are being provided. This gives hope for a stronger witness to a lost world within the next few years.

We are confident that advance will continue for the Brethren because some have determined to enlarge our world witness for Christ. Young people, many of them now in College, are seriously considering the work of missions. Many of them have come to the Board's office to inquire about opportunities, training required and other related items. Certainly God is calling and young people are answering.

We are confident also that advance will continue according to our willingness to do our best for the Lord and at the same time trust in Him "to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think."—W. C. B.

MAKE YOUR WILL —A CHRISTIAN WILL— WITHOUT DELAY

BETTER EARLY THAN NEVER . . . The first rule for making a will is to make it while you are too busy. You probably will never make it if you wait until you are not too busy. It doesn't take long. It doesn't cost much. It does not mean that you think you are going to die. It will save so much trouble, time and money, even hardships, for those you love in case you die. It is the only way you can continue your contributions to the Church. DO IT NOW!

"WHY BE SAD ABOUT IT? . . . The making of a will, a Christian will, is not a sad, to-be-postponed, subject. There is no more reason for talking hush-hush about planning for your wife and children, your Church, your charities, than about any other element of recognized financial wisdom . . . In fact, the making of your will should be a source of satisfaction and a thrill of happiness every time you remember it and say, 'Everything is going to be shipshape for my family and my Church.' "

A CHRISTIAN'S WILL ACKNOWLEDGES

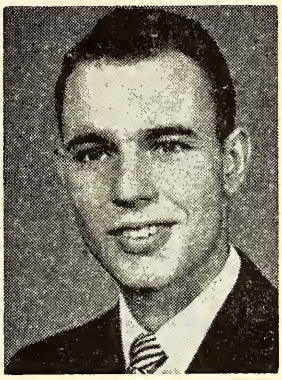
1. That everything he has came from God.
2. That he owes a debt to God which can be paid by sharing his possessions with Him through His Church.
3. That a Will is the only legal means by which an individual can indicate how he wants his estate divided. It is the only means by which a Christian can share his possessions with his Church and his favorite charities. Protect and share your estate. Consult a good lawyer—and remember the Church in your will."—From "Making a Christian Will" National Council of Churches.

SHARING YOUR CHRISTIANITY

WITNESSING has always been an important aspect of vital Christianity. It forms one of the drives of missionary endeavor. One of the reasons for the impotence of Christianity today is that members of the faith fail to report what they have seen and what it means to them. Sharing has become a lost art among most of us. Is it because we are having no vital personal experiences?

James Robertson says, "ALL Christians must work. What would happen in battle if only the officers fought?"—**Source Book on Spiritual Life and Evangelism.**

PHIL LERSCH ORDAINED AT ASHLAND, OHIO May 6, 1956



ORDINATION SERVICES for Phil Lersch were held in the Park Street Brethren Church of Ashland, Ohio, Sunday morning, May 6th.

Phil, who was born in Ashland, the son of E. P. Lersch, Director of Public Relations at Ashland College, and the late Ruth Ashman Lersch, attended grade and High School in Ashland. He is a graduate of Ashland College and will receive his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Ashland Theological Seminary upon the completion of his thesis in June 1957.

For the past three years, Phil has served as pastor of the Fairhaven Brethren Church near Ashland. He is married to the former Jean Lindower, of Ashland, daughter of Dr. L. E. Lindower, Dean of Ashland College and Mrs. Ida Lindower, Administrative Assistant of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church.

On June 11th, Phil will begin his work as newly-appointed Youth Director for the Brethren Denomination.

The program follows:

Prelude—"Hymn of Glory" .....Yon

Hymn—"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Invocation ..... Response

Offertory—"Adagio" from Sonata .....A Corelli
Violinist, Ann Lindower

The Doxology .....Congregation

The Action of the Church Calling for Ordination
Mr. Harry Weidenhamer, Church Moderator

The Action of the District Ministerial Examining Board
Rev. Charles Munson

Anthem—"Sanctus" .....:..Gounod
Tenor Solo, Marlin McCann

Ordination Sermon .....Rev. Clarence Fairbanks
"A Charge to a Young Minister"

Hymn—"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

The Scriptural Charge..I Timothy 3:1-7, II Timothy 4:1-5
Dean L. E. Lindower

Charge to the Candidate, Phillip Lersch
Dean Delbert B. Flora

Ordination Prayer with Laying on of Hands
Dean Lindower
assisted by Rev. Munson and Rev. Fairbanks

Setting Apart as Elder .....Dean Flora

Declaration of Authority as Elder .....Dean Flora

The Consecration of Mrs. Phillip Lersch
as wife of an Elder

Charge to serve as wife of an Elder .....Dean Flora

Prayer with Laying on of Hands .....Rev. Munson
assisted by Dean Lindower and Rev. Fairbanks

Hymn—"Rise Up, O Men of God"

Benediction .....Rev. Phillip Lersch

Postlude—"Te Deum Laudamus" .....Claussman

Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, Pastor
Jerry Flora, Choir Director
Mrs. Joseph Shultz, Guest Organist

THE SCRIPTURES HAVE NOW APPEARED IN 1,092 LANGUAGES

SOME PART OF THE BIBLE has been published in 1,092 languages and dialects as of December 31, 1955, according to a statement issued by the American Bible Society. Eight new languages have been added to the list since the last report.

Languages in which the whole Bible has been published	207
Languages in which the whole New Testament has been published	265
Languages in which at least a Gospel or other whole book has been published	620
Total languages in which some part of the Bible has been published	1,092

With the publication of the Old Testament, by the American Bible Society, the entire Bible is now available in Luvale. This language is spoken in Northern Rhodesia, Belgian Congo and Angola, Africa.

Complete New Testaments were published, for the first time, in six languages: **Bari** spoken in the Sudan; **Asho Southern Chin** (Burma); **Conob** in Guatemala; **Gbari: Matai** (Nigeria); **Hula** one of the languages spoken in Papua, and **Kim** (French Equatorial Africa).

The American Bible Society added five new languages last year to the list in which it has published the Scriptures, three of which are spoken in Mexico: **Chinantec, Chontal of Oaxaca,** and **Otomi of Mezquital.** For people in the Philippines, the Society published the Gospel of Mark in **Tiruray** and also the Gospel of Mark in **Tzutujil** for a tribe in Guatemala. Other Bible Societies published Scriptures for the first time in **Kapauku** (New Guinea), **Pila** (Dahomey, West Africa) and **Nyemba,** spoken in Angola.

There are some 80 languages in which short passages or collections of passages have been published, but in which no complete book of the Bible has appeared.

What's Doing in the Churches

BRUSH VALLEY BRETHREN, ADRIAN, PENNA.

Our ministry here at Brush Valley Brethren Church, located approximately 12 miles in a northerly direction from Kittanning, Penna., is quite encouraging. The young people have shown a growing interest in their organization, as well as other affairs pertaining to the church. Those who have for many, many years attended this church in the valley, are making every effort to support and strengthen the much needed work here. Truly the harvest is white for the reaping, but the laborers are few.

Mrs. Elverda Rambsel and I have accepted the challenge to preach the Word of God as He so directs, and help with all our abilities and resources to meet the needs of this growing church. Many thanks are extended those who in any way lend their support in prayers and in substance. The many fine people of this congregation are interested in Christian progress, and would appreciate your prayers.

We were very happy that Rev. Naff initiated the Boys' Brotherhood. The group is small, the average attendance being 10, but the boys like the fellowship, and are willing to help.

The W. M. S. is maintaining interest and growth under the direction of Mrs. Grace Hooks. Likewise, the Sisterhood of Mary and Martha, under the supervision of Miss Bessie Hooks, is maintaining interest and growth.

The Willing Worker's Class, composed of single and married women, is very helpful in looking about the needs of the physical plant of the sanctuary. Just recently they bought new drapes and curtains for the front of the sanctuary.

In February, the fathers and sons of the Brush Valley Brethren Fellowship attended the Father-Son banquet given at the Third Brethren Church of Johnstown, Penna. It was an enriching experience for all. As yet we've been unable to stimulate a Laymen's Organization, but again we are trusting that God will open the door.

The Youth Organization is very encouraging. The attendance has stayed between 15 to 20, but we share a nucleus vitally interested in Christian growth. In March they were able to purchase a brand new vacuum sweeper for the custodian's work.

Our Mid-Week Bible Fellowship, which meets Thursday evenings at 7:30, has been very faithfully attended by those who wish to learn what our Bible has to say to present-day Christians. Attendance has increased successively since December. We hold question and answer type of discussion.

Miss Bessie Hooks is teaching and supervising a training class in Personal Soul Winning.

We were very fortunate to have Bob and Bea Bischof share with 95 people who were present their experiences in the wonderful work they have been called to in Nigeria. The brethren were blessed with this fellowship. They gave $37.14 toward the mission work.

During our Pre-Easter Services it was our privilege to have a variety of programs carrying the thought of "The Cross of Christ." March 28th, Rev. Cummings from Kittanning showed slides and enlightened us of the Holy Land, particularly around Calvary. On March 29th, the Sisterhood of Mary and Martha held their public service which consisted of two plays. The success of this program is credited to Mrs. Ocy Hooks, chairman, Mrs. Alma Lewis and Mrs. Violet Hooks. On Friday evening, the 30th, the pastor brought a message on the suffering of Christ on the Cross, illustrated by a chalk talk.

On Sunday morning, then, the church attended the community Sunrise Service at the Limestone Church of God. We had 184 present for Easter Sunday morning service. In the evening, 58 partook of Communion.

One soul was added unto the kingdom and the church through confession, baptism and confirmation.

David L. Rambsel.

CHEYENNE

Through correspondence I learned about Brother Garber undergoing surgery and hoping he would be able to hold a few meetings before Easter. I suggested I might help him and was invited to do so. I arrived on Saturday evening, March 24th. That night Mrs. Garber became quite sick and was confined to her bed for more than a week. I preached on Sunday March 25th and each evening excepting Saturday until April 8th. Obstacles? Mrs. Garber ill in bed; a visiting son with an infected jaw taken to the hospital in serious condition; and many others in the congregation unable to attend on account of illness. The attendance under these adverse circumstances was good. On Easter Sunday morning the attendance was within one of the record. On the closing Sunday morning a fine crowd was present. The carry-in dinner that day was something to partake of. Then snow began to fall and at the close of the evening service about two inches covered the ground.

My home was with the Garbers. And it was a very happy occasion for me. I shared in the eating of elk, antelope, and trout, all rare to me. Thank you brother and sister Garber. My thanks to the church for every kindness shown. May the Lord lead and prosper this work and its leaders.

A SURPRISE

Seven years ago I was in Cheyenne. At that time the church was about the last building on the fringe of the city. TODAY fine new homes fill the area at least half a mile beyond the church; there is a superfood market one square away; a new school building is to be erected in the area; and new homes are being erected continually. All this means opportunity for the Brethren church. The door is open. Will we walk in? Or, will we "pass

by on the other side?" May we, as a church, put everything behind this work to make it a monument to the Lord. May we share with them our prayers and our support. They need and deserve both.

MID-WEST CONFERENCE

The Mid-West conference is to meet at Cheyenne in October. They are already making ready for it. The men of the church are building a kitchen in the basement. It only needs finishing now. Plans for entertainment are being carried forward. Since this church is isolated from the other churches of the district a special effort should be put forth by the Brethren to attend the conference. A good attendance will help them. May the Lord burden the hearts of many to attend.

H. E. Eppley.

QUIET DELL—CAMERON

Perhaps it is time that we drop a line to the Evangelist regarding the work of Quiet Dell-Cameron. We are doing nothing spectacular here but are still plodding along. On April 15 we baptized four young people and took them into church membership; two at Cameron and two at Quiet Dell.

Sunday, April 22nd was really a red letter day for the Cameron Church. It was the occasion of our sixth Dedication Day Anniversary. We had as our speaker, Rev. W. S. Crick, from Newark, Ohio. Rev. Crick brought challenging and inspiring messages at both the morning and afternoon sessions, both of which were very well attended.

This year we very frankly put the main emphasis on fund raising as we had set as our goal the raising of enough funds in cash and short term pledges to liquidate our church debt within the coming year. To do this would necessitate the raising of $1,300.00. As the plans were well laid and a great deal of interest began to be manifested even before the day arrived, we were hopeful that we might exceed our goal and have some money over for much needed improvements.

To our surprise and delight, and bearing testimony that God always rewards us even above our fondest hopes, after a very brief time devoted to the raising of funds, and with no undue pressure, we found that we had received the total of $2,533.83. Actually the sum was more than this for we received a coupon bearing bond, which if we can hold to maturity, will yield $200.00 additional.

That evening, Rev. Crick spoke to a very appreciative audience at Quiet Dell, where he was formerly pastor, and where he had more recently held a meeting, during the pastorate of the late Rev. A. R. Baer.

We covet the prayers of the entire brotherhood in our work here with these two small, but splendid churches.

Cecil Bolton, Jr., Pastor.

THE SAINT JAMES MARYLAND MEETING

The Evangelistic Meeting commencing Monday night April 16 and closing on Sunday night, April 29 is now history. Plans had been made for the meeting for months. Rev. L. V. King, of Louisville, Ohio, was the Evangelist. St. James was Rev. King's first pastorate after his leaving College. Naturally the people here as well as the Evangelist anticipated the meeting. It had been thirty years since the closing of his pastorate, with two brief visits to the field soon after his leaving.

The two weeks seemed to go unusually rapid. Calls were made daily and nearly 500 miles were driven over this section of the state in the interest of the meeting. The membership here is widely scattered. Friends of other days were present for nearly every service. The average attendance for the meeting was 95. Rev. King was well received and the continued attendance indicated as much. He made the parsonage his headquarters. Mrs. Ankrum had to leave early for her school, and thus the writer and he were on their own. The Evangelist was unconcerned and adjusted himself very easily to the matter of looking out for his own interests.

The total visual result of the meeting consisted of 15 coming forward. There were 14 first confessions and one coming from another church receiving baptism and membership. The Sunday set aside for baptisms, a father and mother came who had had two children come out in the meeting. This made a total of 17 baptized and on Mother's Day, May 13, seventeen new members were received into the membership of the church.

This is the first meeting that the writer had worked with Rev. King. When he and the writer were called before the Board following the close of the last service, Rev. King was given a check for his services. Much to the surprise of the writer he was given one amounting to three figures as a measure of appreciation for services and for expenses. This report can be summed up in the statement that from start to finish it was a real pleasure to labor with Rev. King. Perhaps the future will bring us together again.

Freeman Ankrum, Pastor.

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

Sunday School Suggestions by Joseph R. Shultz

(Sponsored by the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church)

TEN BOOKS EVERY SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER SHOULD OWN

1. **A Reference Bible**
2. **A Bible concordance**
3. **A Bible dictionary**
4. **"Bible Handbook"** by H. H. Halley
5. **"The Good News"** (American Bible Society)
6. **"Christian Education and the Local Church"** by J. D. Murch
7. **"Psychology for Christian Teachers"** by Alfred L. Murray
8. **"Children in the Bible School"** by Lois E. LeBar
9. **"Principles of Teaching for Christian Teachers"** by C. B. Eavey
10. **"Jesus The Teacher"** by J. M. Price

(These books are available through the Brethren Publishing Company, Ashland, Ohio.)

GIFTS TO DATE FOR BENEVOLENT BOARD

July 1, 1955 to April 9, 1956

BY DISTRICTS (in round numbers)

Southeastern	$ 282.00
Pennsylvania	1,357.00
Ohio	2,083.00
Indiana	3,062.00
Central	488.00
Mid-West	18.00
Northern California	59.00
Sarasota	54.20
Tucson	55.05
Total	$7,458.25
National W. M. S.	1,000.00
Grand Total	$8,458.25
Total Last Year	$9,769.29

Thirty churches have not as yet responded. Some have increased their offerings, while others have fallen below a year ago.

Here is a list of the churches giving above $200.00 this far:

South Bend*	$ 700.00
($200.00 from church; $500.00 from Roland Obenchain)	
Louisville*	430.94
Elkhart	359.50
(Quarterly report nor cash offering in yet)	
Smithville	341.80
Milledgeville*	341.00
New Paris*	331.00
(Last year—$111.40)	
Goshen	302.40
Berlin*	283.84
Ashland*	260.25
Hagerstown	229.06
Vinco*	224.07
Bryan*	217.00
New Lebanon	205.00

*Indicates an increase over last year.

Some smaller churches who gave splendid offering:

Tiosa	$100.00;	Last year $ 34.00
Johnstown II	100.00;	Last year 53.50
Oakville	70.00;	Last year 10.00

Offerings from Nappanee, North Manchester and a few other larger givers not in yet.

We just MUST have a larger offering than last year to meet our increase in Expenses. Can we do it?

L. V. King, Treasurer.

THE BRETHREN'S HOME
Flora, Indiana

A COMPASS TO STEER BY

Life on the ocean is often a stormy life. Hail, rain, howling winds, thunder and lightning, and sometimes calm and sunshine—this is a life on the ocean. In such a life what could a sailor do without a compass to steer by?

There is nothing, perhaps, he thinks of more at sea, or looks upon more frequently while steering his ship. He hangs it in such a way that it can be seen at all times, night and day. By this little instrument he guides his ship over the sea, and into any port in the world he may desire to go. Without his compass the sailor would be in constant danger of sailing in the wrong direction.

This is a picture of many a one sailing on the sea of life. Especially so in regard to the boy who is trying to do something for himself. He meets with head-winds, tempests, and storms in many ways. What can he do without a compass to steer by? Here he meets with opposition and discouragements. That is a strong head-wind. Then his honor and honesty are put to the test—passion for amusements, shows and theatres, rise like stormy winds. To gratify this desire he must spend his own money, or that of some other person. This is a great trial, a fiery trial which must try him. These are sunken rocks and shoals on which many a dear boy has run his bark, and gone down to rise no more. How can a boy steer clear of these hidden rocks and sandbanks? This is the question, Boys.

I remember reading a like question in a book many hundred years old. It reads thus: "Wherewith shall a young man cleanse his way?" and this is the answer: "By taking heed thereto according to thy Word." **Thy Word**; that is, God's Word, the precious Bible, "God's holy book of truth." Many a dear boy leaves his quiet country home for city life, and finds a rough time of it. This reminds me of what an old and experienced sailor said to a boy going to live in the city. "Well, my boy, so you are going to try your fortune in the city. I tell you, it's a dangerous ocean to launch your craft on." "Yes, sir," answered the lad, taking his Bible from his pocket, "but you see, I have got a safe compass to steer by." "Stick to it, stick to it!" exclaimed the old sailor, "and the enemy may blow hot or blow cold, he can't hurt so much as a hair of your head."

This is the compass, boys, to steer by, the Bible, the Holy Bible. Make it the man of your counsel, and God will make it a lamp to your feet, and a light to your path.—Selected.

Laid to Rest

LESLIE. Thomas Arthur Leslie, age 52, faithful member of the Brush Valley Brethren Church, was killed instantly in an automobile accident, Jan. 23, 1956. Born Nov. 23, 1903. His wife, Estella, and four children, survive. Burial, Brush Valley Brethren cemetery.

FRENCH. Cecil French died, Armstrong County Hospital after a long illness. Born March 12, 1912, and had just passed his 44th birthday. Survived by three daughters. Burial, Brush Valley Brethren cemetery. Rev. Charles Strater, Church of God, Kittanning, assisted.

David L. Rambsel.

WHITE GIFT OFFERINGS

White Gift Offerings received since February 17th, 1956:

Jones Mills Brethren Church (Additional)	$ 15.00
Washington D. C. Brethren Church	95.33
Mt. Pleasant Brethren Church	16.00
Bethlehem Brethren Church	85.52
Falls City Brethren Church	47.99
Waterloo Sunday School	225.00
Fort Scott Brethren Church	20.00
Newark (Ohio) Sunday School	25.00
Hagerstown Brethren Church (Additional)	5.00
Cerro Gordo Brethren Church	18.81
Individual Gift	5.00
Goshen Brethren Ch. (Quarterly Payment)	104.10
Elkhart Brethren Ch. (Quarterly Payment)	112.00
Pleasant Hill Brethren Church (Add'l)	28.41
Total Received	$ 803.16
Previously Reported	$8,815.82
Total White Gift Offerings 5-8-56	$9,618.98

Churches which have not yet sent in their offerings are urged to do so as soon as possible in order that the treasurer might close the books for this year.

Henry Bates—Treasurer.

ONE STORY stubbornly keeps place in my memory. It is of a minister who on meeting a little boy one day asked, "Sonny boy, who made you?"

"Well, to tell you the truth," the little boy replied, "I ain't done yet."

That sharp answer contains a very wise bit of philosophy. The lad realized that he was still on the make. He was growing up. The longer he lived, the more opportunity life would give him. So it should be for every one of us—no matter what be the days of our years. Life can be ever so much more wonderful if we sincerely believe in God, who doeth all things well. He gives grace and glory on an ever-increasing scale as we open to Him our lives and our souls and our minds.—Reuben K. Youngdahl in **The Secret of Greatness** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer.

"CHRIST IN ME"

Art thou hungering for the fullness
  Of the blessing Christ doth GIVE?
Longing now to learn the secret
  Of the life He bids thee live?
In His Word thine answer standeth,
  "Christ who is our life," it saith;
Open now thy heart, and trust Him
  There to dwell henceforth by faith.

Christ, the Lord's Anointed, reigning
  O'er the life He died to win,
Daily shall reveal more fully
  His great power, without, within,
What thou never couldst accomplish
  Shall His Spirit work through thee,
While thy soul this witness beareth,
  " 'Tis not I, but Christ in me."

"In Him" dwelleth all God's fullness;
  In Him, thou art made "complete";
Rise and CLAIM thy heavenly birthright,
  Kneeling at thy Father's feet.
He will never disappoint thee;
  Praise Him that the GIFT is thine,
Then go forth to live each moment
  On Sufficiency Divine.

—Freda Hanbury Allen.

ALL SHARE in the privileges of the Gospel alike (Eph. 3:6). Christ is to dwell in all our hearts (Col. 1:27). "Master, where dwellest Thou" (Rev. 3:20)? He wants to dwell in our hearts "by faith" (Eph. 3:17). He is IN our hearts, except we be "reprobates"—beyond all redemption (2 Cor. 13:5). He is in us as the sap in "the branches" (John 15:1-5). With Christ in the believer, the life lived will not be superficial. Christ makes the regenerated spirit His abode. At the Transfiguration the Lord's real nature burst forth before the view of man (Matt. 17:2). So with Christ enthroned within we may be conscious of a glory transfiguring our lives, and irradiating the affairs of earth about us. The Christ-life is revealed when we gladly die to the energies and promptings of the self-life (Gal. 2:20) .

The riches of the glory of this secret of the Divine life in man is shown in patience (Rev. 1:9). He makes all grace to abound within us (Isaiah 32:21). He gives us the Holy Spirit and the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:20, 23). Being literally formed within us, His life is manifested in our mortal body (2 Cor. 4:10). Wherein we are unable, He can for us (Phil 4:13).

We may help manifest the Holy Spirit's indwelling by a daily meditation before God on Col. 1:27; by revereing our bodies as the temple of the indwelling Lord (1 Cor. 3:16); by daily crucifixion of self (Luke 14:26; 1 Cor. 15:31); and by delving deep into the unsearchable riche of Christ (Eph. 3:8). Let us be "partakers of the divin nature" (2 Peter 1:4).

"Though Christ a thousand times
  In Bethlehem be born—
If He's not born in thee
  Thy soul is still forlorn.

"Go out—God will go in;
  Die thou and let Him live:
Be not and He will be;
  Wait and He'll all things give."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for June 3, 1956

THE CHURCH IN EUROPE

Lesson: Acts 16:6-10; 18:5-11

PAUL WAS A TIRELESS worker for the Lord. He could say with John Wesley, "the world is my parish." He knew no bounds. He was never satisfied with what he had done, but was always striving to accomplish more for his Lord and Master.

Paul felt the Glow of the Gospel in his heart, and could not stop until he had literally burned out for Jesus Christ! Because of this he could say at the end of a fruitful life: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (II Tim. 4:7).

Before he could say this, however, it was necessary for Paul to carry the Gospel throughout the cities of Asia Minor and Southern Europe. He made three missionary journeys over a period of a little more than 10 years.

Journey No. 1 was primarily centered in Asia Minor (Acts 13—15:35). Journey No. 2, described in Acts 15:36—18:22, came into existence when Paul said unto Barnabas: "Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the Word of the Lord, and see how they do" (15:36). Thus the second tour was a return visit to the cities of Asia Minor, plus a trip into Macedonia and Greece. Journey No. 3 is outlined in Acts 18:23—21:15. It consisted of a re-visit to the Asian and European churches. This Journey took about 4 years, 3 of which were spent in Ephesus.

Today's lesson transpires during the second Journey. In it we see evidence of the supervision of the Holy Spirit over the missionary program of the early church. More than this, we see how the Apostle Paul was so in touch with God that he was able and willing to be directed by the Spirit in all his activities.

Having reached the province of Mysia in Asia Minor, Paul and Silas decided to visit Bithynia, a province just northeast of Mysia. "But the Spirit suffered them not" (16:7).

What should they do? It is true that God seemed to have spoken to them, but did it make "sense" not to

preach in Bithynia where the Gospel had not yet gone? Notice what they did: "And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas." They obeyed!

It ought to be ordinary procedure for the Christian to ascertain the will of God and move at His bidding. **Unfortunately, all too frequently can there be found a Christian who is responsive to the Spirit of God!** Paul practiced what he preached. He told the Christians in Rome that being led by the Spirit is a mark of Sonship: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the Sons of God" (Rom. 8:14).

This lesson would not be complete unless we included the truth of Acts 16:9. "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over unto Macedonia, and help us."

We believe it to be a Scriptural principle that God never closes one avenue of service without opening another. Although the door of service was closed to Paul and Silas in Bithynia, God opened a wider door in Macedonia.

Had not Paul obeyed God when he saw the vision of the Macedonian, we would not be blessed today with the book of Philippians. Neither would we have I & II Thessalonians, and I & II Corinthians.

Paul knew that his task was to preach the Gospel. He also knew, however, it was important **How, When,** and **Where,** the Gospel should be preached. He must do it in **God's Way,** and in **God's Time,** and in **God's Place.**

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of June

TOPIC—"THE COURAGE OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS"

. Exhortation To Courage. Joshua 1:1-9.

Joshua, a relatively young man, must have been awed by the appointment by God to be the successor of one so courageous, powerful, and influential as Moses. Yet we find no record of Joshua attempting to become the leader of the Hebrews in their long and exhausting search for the promised land. Throughout this passage (and especially verses 5, 6, 7, 9), God encourages Joshua to be strong and courageous, promising Joshua that he would be with him always. A study of the life of Joshua reveals that although events of paramount importance took place during his time and he was forced to make important decisions, he remained faithful to God. His love for and obedience to God are summed up in his declaration, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

. God Encourages. Jeremiah 1:6-10.

Booker T. Washington, born a slave in 1856, overcame tremendous difficulties in order to rise to the distinguished position of the leading Negro educator of his time. He wrote the following concerning encouragement: "I believe that any man's life will be filled with constant and unexpected encouragement, if he makes up his mind to do his level best each day, and as nearly as possible reaching the high-water mark of pure and useful living." In your opinion what is the chief reason for lack of faith in God?

3. A Prayer For Courage. Acts 4:23-31.

The Apostles, having converted about five thousand people (verse 4) aroused the suspicion and hatred of the priests and Sadducees. Consequently they were imprisoned and questioned concerning who gave them the authority to teach. Like the scores of martyrs who followed them, Peter and the other apostles faced persecution (even death). Remembering all this, their prayers for courage have been of even greater significance for they remind us that the disciples were human beings, with the same reactions to grave dangers experienced by Christians today.

4. Peter's Courage. Acts 5:17-29.

From Matthew 17:1; Mark 9:2; Luke 9:18-33 we learn that Peter occupied an important place among the disciples. At times he was spokesman for the Twelve (Matthew 19:27; Luke 12:41). At times he volunteered the answer to questions directed to the group (Matthew 16:16; Mark 8:29). And sometimes Jesus addressed Peter in place of each one individually (Matthew 26:40). There is a contrast between the Peter portrayed through the Gospels and the Peter portrayed through the Acts. The former Peter was often unsteady in his convictions. The latter Peter was firm and steadfast, courageous, willing to suffer imprisonment and death for the risen Christ. How do you explain the transformation in Peter?

5. Paul's Confidence. Acts 9:23-31.

The story is told of an orphan who was placed in a foster home. The first night she said her bedtime prayers and then added, "Dear God, make these people as good to me as my own mother and father were. Please, please, God, do it." Then she paused and added in a happy tone, "Of course, you will, dear God. I know you will." Paul displayed the same kind of confidence in God—sincere, simple, wholehearted. His faith in God exemplified by his confidence in God was not the result of an emotional experience, but rather the outcome of serious thinking.

(To be continued next month.)

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING

Make checks payable to William Fells, Treasurer, and address, Rev. William Fells, 232 Sherman Ave., Ashland, Ohio.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

SUMMER IS COMIN'

YES SIR, it's gonna get pretty warm in church before long, then we will have some pretty good excuses for missing youth meetings. Of course we don't stop to think that in some sections of the country it is pretty warm all year around; but we who live in the more temperate climate think that when summer comes it is too warm to go to meetings at the church. SO—

WHY NOT PLAN FOR IT NOW?

WHY NOT START THINKIN' real serious about your summer youth sessions right now—and maybe you can get the jump on the gang and make things really interesting. Look back on by-gone years and visualize (if you dare!) the empty seats and the wilted group that turns out dutifully for the summer sessions, wishing that they could do something else.

Maywe we can come up with an idea or two. First thing, let's remember that

School Is Out, and Days are Longer

Does church let out when school closes? Not on your life! In reality, this ought to be a big help to church now that the kids don't have so many places to go—or flunk something!—for school. Looks as if church sort of takes the short end of our lives, come to think of it.

Since the days are longer and there is more light it might even help to switch the time of the youth meeting to after the evening worship service, refreshments served afterward! There is nothing in any of my King James versions of the Bible that says the youth service has to be at 6:30 p. m. standard time. All fall and winter long we have been going to evening services about dark, and it seems so different to attend church in the evening when the lights don't have to be turned on. Maybe changing the time to a later hour will bring out the gang. Maybe they can come to the evening service in a group first, with a special youth meeting and fellowship afterward. I'm sure the pastor wouldn't oppose this idea.

If this idea doesn't seem good to you, or your group likes more activity, why not switch the meeting to a week night with more activity and planned recreation before the devotional meeting? Take in as much time as you like that way at some park or someone's country home. Enthusiasm for such a meeting might even carry over and bring the gang together for the Sunday evening regular worship, giving the pastor a good strong youth section of singers and lively support.

HAVE A FITTING THEME

When a place is picked out for the meeting, mark it on the activities calendar alongside the theme of the meeting. Those in charge can easily adjust their theme to suit the place of meeting. You will be surprised how important it is to have a good solid theme. The gospel covers every phase of life and fits any place. A variety of places can give a variety of meanings to Christ and His gospel. Themes should be in the planning for summer meetings right now, with a view to adapting them to a variety of places.

Keep the summer programs a little shorter than at other times of the year, with more singing and not so much speaking. More active programs are better for warm seasons. Remember, young people don't like to work and play and swim all week through the summer months and then come to a dead devotional service. Keep the meetings alive.

IT MAY TAKE MORE ADVERTISING

Because of the hustle and bustle of summer life it will take more advertising of meetings to make it sound interesting. Bigger and better posters, clever announcements in the bulletin, individual announcement on cards can all be used to great advantage in the summer. Use of objects on bulletin boards are especially helpful, giving a "3-D" effect. A twig or branch on the bulletin board will help to attract attention. It also will give it more life.

KEEP CAMP IN MIND

By now most of the young people who are going to camp have their plans made. There are others, however who must be introduced to the idea of attending camp or need a "push" to get them to attend. Parents may not be sold on the idea, or something else could be holding them back. If it is finances, the youth organization should be at work on some type of system that will permit at least a few to earn their way to camp. If they need to be sold on the idea, then the youth meetings is a good time to do some advertising. Perhaps some phase of camp could be assimilated in the meetings so as to start them to thinking about camp. For those who plan to attend any way it will be a "booster shot," and for those who have never attended it might help them to decide in favor of camp.

Perhaps your group is not located too far from a summer camp. If not, then why not plan to take your group to visit camp some evening either through the week, or on Sunday evening for a good meeting? Get in touch with the camp director before you do, and let him know about how many will be attending.

Assign those who attend camp the responsibility of bringing back with them at least one idea which can be used in the regular youth meetings.

Summer time could be a wonderful time for youth in the church. Let's get the jump on it!

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING DAY

Goal—$8,500.00

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

"Serve the Lord with gladness."

HOW OFTEN WE READ this phrase and silently agree that that is how one ought to serve! Then we are asked to help in the work of the church—as a Sunday School teacher, as a worker in the children's department, as a pianist, as a member of the choir, or in some other capacity well within our abilities. The excuses tumble over each other explaining why we cannot possibly serve. The reason given most often by mothers is, "Oh, I can't do it. The children are still small and take so much time. When they are older I'll be glad to help."

Shortly after our son came to gladden our home, a friend admired him properly and then added thoughtfully, "Children are great blessings from God, but He does not expect us to use them as excuses for not doing His work."

Often that statement has come back to me when I've been on the verge of saying, "Oh, I can't—the children, you know." To my own amazement I've discovered many times that the children do not interfere with the work I've been asked to do!

Jesus said, "He that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Are we using our children as excuses or do we think of them as blessings and then go on to serve the Lord with gladness?

Mrs. Robert Holsinger,
Warsaw, Indiana.

THE LAGGING ENTHUSIASM for public worship by many persons in this generation may be explained by the fact that they have often left church services without feeling that they have been in the presence of God, and without finding an answer to their personal needs. Norman Cousins says of the church that "it has become one of the values we fight for instead of a force in itself. It is not regarded as the working source of wisdom and strength, but as a factor, a respected possession, a shelter for conscience."

We may well ask whose responsibility it is if the church has become a value for which man fights, rather than a force to help him in every hour of need. Part of the blame must certainly be borne by the institution when it has failed to show men the wisdom of holding fast to faith. But not entirely! The burden must fall as well on that great company of professing Christians who have regarded the church lightly, and who have sought numerous excuses to explain why it is not essential for them to attend.—G. Ernest Thomas in **Spiritual Life in the New Testament** (Fleming H. Revell Co.).

SPEAK TO US, LORD

Speak to us, Lord, until our hearts are melted,
To share in Thy compassion for the lost;
Till our souls throb with burning intercession,
That they shall know Thy name, whate'er the cost.

Speak to us, Lord, till shamed by Thy great giving,
Our hands unclasp to set our treasures free;
Our will, our love, our dear ones, our possessions,
All gladly yielded, gracious Lord, to Thee.
—Unknown.

Christ died for us! He took our place! He bore our sins! We are healed by the stripes made on Him by a whip. A father had told his son he would send him to sleep in the attic, with only bread and water for his supper, if he broke the laws of the home once more. The child disobeyed again; the father sent him to the attic. At suppertime the father could not eat. He had the boy on his mind and his heart. His wife said, "I know what you are thinking. But you must not bring the boy from the attic. It would cause him to disobey again. He would have no respect for your word. You must not cheapen your relation as his father by failing to keep your promise." To which her husband replied, "You are right. I will not break my word. To do so would cause my son to lose his respect for my word. But he is so lonely up there." He kissed his wife good night, entered the attic, ate bread and water with the boy, and when the child went to sleep on the hard boards, his father's arm was his pillow.

Every sinner has to be punished, or else someone has to be punished in his place. Christ on Calvary was the innocent suffering for the guilty. He who knew no sin was suffering for the sinner.—C. Gordon Bayless in AND BE YE SAVED (Revell).

A GOSSIPER SILENCED

Ruth A— was a good woman, eager to be at peace with all, but when Susan R—came in to gossip, Ruth was so unhappy that she asked her pastor what she should do about the matter. He prescribed the following remedy:

"Keep the family Bible on the table, and when Susan comes, and becomes too disagreeable and bothersome, say to her, 'Susan, you are quite a good scholar; read a Psalm, and pray with me. It might do us both good.' "

She did, and received this answer: "Another time, Ruth when I'm not so busy. Please excuse me today."

There was no more gossiping in Ruth's house. —Selected.

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HOLY BIBLE

Are All The Children In?

I think ofttimes as the night draws nigh
Of an old house on the hill,
Of a yard all wide and blossom-starred
Where the children played at will.
And when the night at last came down,
Hushing the merry din,
Mother would look around and ask,
"Are all the children in?"

'Tis many and many a year since then,
And the old house on the hill
No longer echoes to childish feet,
And the yard is still, so still.
But I see it all, as the shadows creep,
And though many years have been
Since then, I can hear my mother ask,
"Are all the children in?"

I wonder if when the shadows fall
On the last short, earthly day,
When we say good-bye to the world outside,
All tired with our childish play,
When we step out into that Other Land
Where Mother so long has been,
Will we hear her ask, just as of old,
"Are all the children in?"

—Selected

Indiana District Conference Program in this Issue

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. The Brethren Youth were in charge of the morning service on May 20th. Lois Shanholtz, who recently won the Maryland State Championship in the International Christian Endeavor Society Citizenship contest, presented her winning essay, on the subject, "I Speak for Christian Citizenship."

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. Brother Horace Huse was the speaker for the Meyersdale High School Baccalaureate Service held the evening of May 20th.

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Baptismal services for six were held the afternoon of May 20th.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. From Smithville Brethren's weekly paper, "Cross Beams," we learn that the congregation has approved the call of Gene Caskey as assistant pastor for the summer months.

A full-time custodian for the church has also been hired by the Smithville Brethren. Brother Robert L. Hoffman says, "This has been a definite need for some time."

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. The Junior Choir presented a program of music at the County Home the afternoon of May 20th.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. "Open House" was held at the parsonage the afternoon of May 27th.

The S. M. M. public service was held the evening of May 27th, with Mrs. Virgil Meyer as the speaker.

FLORA, INDIANA. Rev. Ralph Miller, nephew of a former pastor of the Flora Church, Rev. Baker, was guest speaker in the Flora Church on May 20th.

(Continued on Page 7)

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 7)

HARVEY M. OBERHOLTZER

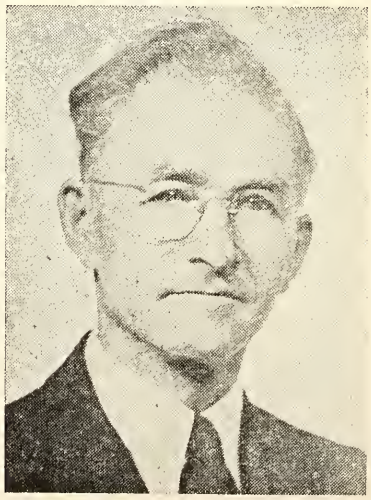
ELDER HARVEY M. OBERHOLTZER, for more than 50 years a minister in the Brethren Church, died on Sunday, May 20th, at the home of his daughter in Cincinnati. He was 80 years of age.

Brother Oberholtzer was a graduate of Ashland College in 1903. He had served as pastor of Brethren Churches in Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Nebraska. He retired about four years ago.

He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Hofer, two grandchildren and three sisters. His wife preceded him in death in 1936.

Funeral services were held in the Park Street Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio, of which he was a member, on Wednesday afternoon, May 23rd. Pastor Clarence Fairbanks officiated. Interment, Ashland Cemetery.

Many are the lives through a ministry of more than fifty years which have been influenced and inspired by our brother. We pray God's blessing and comfort and assurance upon the loved ones who survive. (WSB.)



The Editor's Pulpit

The Year In Progress

MORE THAN THREE-FOURTHS of our Church Conference year of 1955-56 is past. It is well, then, that we give some thought to the progress (or regression?) that has taken place since last August.

Certainly a Church like the Brethren Church, existing in a day when the population and economy are growing, should show some very definite gains. Some **absolute** gains must be shown if the Brethren Church is to continue to hold its place, percentage-wise, in our civilization.

Some questions we can ask:

1. **How many souls have found Christ as Savior in your Church this year?** A glance at the 1954-55 Statistical Report (latest available) shows total additions for that year of 1118. **That means that it took 18 Brethren to win one new member to the Church in one year!** The figure is even more appalling when you consider that of those 1118, more than 250 were gained by letter, reclamation, or relation.

We have pointed out at previous times that a church, in order to hold its own, must increase its membership by 10% each year. Such a gain is needed to off-set losses through death, letter, moving away, indifference, and miff-tree. It happens in every church and it happens all the time.

To make any gain **at all**, a church must add new members at the rate of at least 15% each year.

Relatively few new members in a church come by letter (10%, perhaps). It is self-evident that the great need in our churches, then, is **evangelism.** From the pulpit, we must have an evangelistic gospel, firing the people to a passionate, Spirit-directed, concern for the souls of men. From the pew, we need an unreserved, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" When St. Paul said those words, unreservedly, he became, in Christ, the greatest missionary that ever lived.

Only when we yield ourselves to the Lord, as did Paul, will we have the answer to survival as a Denomination.

The second question we can ask at the three-quarter milestone is:

2. **How much have we given this year?** The Co-Ordinating Finance Committee, last Conference, suggested a minimum standard of giving of $1.00 per member per month for Denominational work. For a church of 200 members, this would make $2400 for the year. (Naturally many members of a church will give much more than the minimum—it helps to balance the many in a church who give **nothing.**) (Some in a church are able to give much more than others, too).

We have just completed a year's cycle of Denominational offerings. Beginning in October and continuing through May, there have been 7 such offerings. We suggest to each church to look at your records for those offerings. Total the amount for all of them. Multiply your book membership by 12. Divide that figure into your total giving to Denominational offerings. What did you get? 100%? 80%? 75%? Or was it nearer 40%? or 30%? Using the 1954-55 Statistical report again, we find that according to the suggested minimum standard of giving, the Denominational average was 46%.

This means that our Denominational program —the outreach of the Church—is running at about **one-half** of its "minimum speed!"

(We realize that we are comparing one year's work with another year's challenge; it but helps to point out the need of the challenging stewardship program which we have this year. It is our prayer and hope that this year's statistics will prove the merits of our challenge).

The third question we can ask is:

3. **How much time are we giving to our church?** There are many faithful workers in our

(Continued on Page 7)

PERFECT PEACE

Rev. H. William Fells

ISAIAH 26:3, "THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE, BECAUSE HE TRUSTETH IN THEE."

LET US STUDY the verse phrase by phrase.

THOU WILT—WHO? This would be the person that Isaiah met in his vision ,"high and lifted up," and in the 4th verse of the 26th Chapter we read the Lord JEHOVAH "is everlasting strength." Who is this Jehovah God? In Psalm 135:5 the answer is "For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods." Deuteronomy 4:31 tells us that He is a merciful God. II Chronicles 30:9 echoes this: "Your God is a gracious and merciful God." I Kings 18:39 tells us that the "Lord He is God." But what does such a great and wonderful God of graciousness and mercy have to do with our world? We read in Psalm 24:1 that "the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein." Therefore we find that this great God above all gods is in control of this world of ours. We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. This is the One who will.

(One in a series of radio messages given over WATG, Ashland, Ohio, during March 1956.)

WHAT WILL HE DO? He will **keep.** And how does He do this? It is most perfectly explained in I Chronicles 29:11, "Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all." What does one need beside the greatness, the power, the glory and the victory, and the majesty to keep all that are His? In the New Testament the Lord has promised never to leave us nor forsake us; that he will be with us even unto the end of the world.

WHO WILL HE KEEP? In this verse it is explained that He will keep anyone whose mind is stayed on Him. In the New Testament again we read, John 3:16, "Whosoever believeth in Him"; Revelation 21:7, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." In the same book, chapter 22, verse 17, the answer is, "And whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely." Therefore our answer here is, any man who will believe and overcome the world around him, and keep his mind stayed on the Lord Jesus Christ will be kept by the Lord.

IN PERFECT PEACE. Not only will he be kept, but he will be kept **in perfect peace.** This is difficult for us to understand , living in a world where peace is something that many peo-

REV. H. WILLIAM FELLS

ple speak of, but few seem to know anything about. But this is not the only reference to this perfect peace. Philippians 4:6 and 7 include the words: "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Jesus has further word on peace in John 14:27 when He says: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." The angels sang of "Peace on earth" in the 2nd chapter of the Gospel according to Luke. Perfect peace that passeth all understanding given by the Master for the earth, and the people have not learned how to receive it. This will be taken up in the next phrase.

WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE? How does one stay his mind on the Lord Jehovah? In Philippians the 4th chapter the 8th verse we read: "Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." And as St. Paul continues in the ninth verse he adds more to our quest: "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." How do we face this world? Positively, thinking on the things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, and filled with virtue? Just one example: How positive did you feel about the weather this morning. When you were awakened by the alarm and became aware that there was a great deal more snow, and even though you heard the weather report and knew there would be snow, how did you feel? You did not want to arise and face the task of getting husband and children off to work and to school. You did not send them out with a positive that the snow was for our good and that the great God knew what was best. If you did then you can truly say, that you did think on the items listed above.

BECAUSE HE TRUSTETH IN THEE. This is the last phrase in our verse for today, and so many times we hear this verse quoted without this phrase. It seems to me that this is a part of the answer as to how our minds can be stayed on God. Have you ever looked into the face and eyes of a bride and groom as they were repeating the wedding vows, or just a few minutes afterward, at least. There you see a perfect trust. For better or for worse, they will go all the way for each other. The trust that is in a little child's face as he walks along holding father's big hand is another illustration. We, in the United States, have built up great trust funds, with the proper authorities behind them. If one of you were to receive notice that you had been mentioned in a will, and a large sum of money was left to you, you would not doubt, even though you could not see the money. All you have is a piece of paper, yet you trust and believe that the money is yours. We have a whole book of promises that this perfect peace can be ours, if we trust in Him.

Ashland, Ohio.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

HIGH LIGHTS

From the Missionary Board Meeting

IN ITS RECENT QUARTERLY MEETING, the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church set up the new budget for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, and made some important decisions affecting other areas of the work. The Board met all day on Tuesday, May 15, with Reverend Riddle, first vice-president in charge of the business.

In keeping with the policy of reducing the support of mission churches each year, most mission church allowances were reduced—some at the suggestion of the churches involved—to make possible the extension of work into new areas.

Sarasota, Florida

The Board voted to call Reverend Lyle Lichtenberger to Sarasota as pastor, beginning September 1. Reverend Lichtenberger has accepted the call. The Sarasota brethren, in characteristic "on-their-toes" fashion have already pledged themselves to purchase a house for their new leader. The next step seems to be providing a church building.

The Ten Dollar Club

The call of the Ten Dollar Club, issued last September, has resulted in the receipt of $5,890.00 for the Sarasota Church thus far. Even the most optimistic of us can't conceive of a church being built with this amount; therefore the Board has authorized another Ten Dollar Club call to be issued about June 1.

This call will not be merely a reminder to those few who have not paid for the Sarasota call; it will be another call—a new call—for more funds. We agreed **not** to call **more** than twice a year, and this will make only the second call in one year.

AND ANOTHER THING—please take note:—Just because this is called the Ten Dollar Club does not limit you in your giving to ten-dollar gifts. GIVE ANY AMOUNT in answer to the call—ten dollars is the minimum for which we are asking. LET'S HELP SARASOTA!

Lost Creek

Dorman and Joan Ronk met with the Board to report on progress at Lost Creek; they showed pictures of the building in progress—and progress is really being made. The parsonage is nearing completion and the Drushals should soon be able to move into it. (Those of you who haven't been down within the past year should go and see for yourselves the improvements that have been made.)

Now most of the funds for the classroom building have been used (Less than $1,000 remains of all funds given); more than twice the amount received for the parsonage has been spent, and about twice the amount budgeted for general maintenance this year has been spent—in fact, more than $25,000.00 has been spent at Lost Creek this past year. The board would like for Dorman to put the Classroom building in usable condition before he leaves, **but it will take more funds!** Brethren, if we are concerned about the future at Lost Creek, we must give to support it.

Home for the Bylers

A recent communication from Rob Byler notified the Board of a property immediately available as a home for them. This property—very desirable and in a fine location—because of rising prices will cost considerably more than the originally-anticipated price (their share of the cost for a house separate from the headquarters building). However, the Board authorized the purchase, and a cable has been sent to this effect. If the property is not sold to someone else before the cable arrives in Buenos Aires, the Bylers should soon be in a new home.

Headquarters Building

The headquarters building, purchased in Buenos Aires last fall will soon be undergoing reconstruction to provide a recording room for radio broadcasting which can double as an assembly room until further construction becomes advisable. (It should be remembered that the property was purchased solely for its location value; the building itself was not worth a great deal.) The Hammond electric organ will soon be shipped from New York for use in radio broadcasting and in the services of worship.

Phoenix

Survey and cultivation of the field is continuing at Phoenix, Arizona, under the leadership of Reverend Vernon Grisso, pastor at Tucson, Arizona. Since the preliminary survey by General Secretary Berkshire last February revealed a number of Brethren people living in Phoenix who are eager for a church of their own faith, the advisability of establishing a new mission point there is being considered.

Missionary Candidate

The initial application of another missionary candidate was accepted at this meeting of the Board. (We now have eight candidates in preparation—some only provisionally accepted, of course—but looking toward Argentina and Nigeria.)

BUILDING IN HIGI-LAND

(Mbororo Station)

Funds have been sent ($3,000.00) to begin work on the Mbororo Station in Higi-land. The workmen are now stock-piling lumber, cement, etc. During the rainy season (about July) foundations will be laid to be ready for actual construction of the buildings when the rains end. The funds for this building program are being provided by the National Woman's Missionary Society.

THE EDITOR'S PULPIT

THE YEAR IN PROGRESS

(Continued from Page 3)

churches. Many are spending hours in prayer, concern for and working for the lost, on committees, etc. Many more never turn a hand to help the program of the church. From another, we quote: "Nobody should join a congregation who did not intend to put in at least one hour a week for the church, not counting attendance at worship services and organizational activities."

My, that sounds like a big order! Can you imagine what could be done in a church of 200 members with 200 hours of available service each week? Hour of prayer for the lost. Hours of personal work in reaching their souls for Christ; hours of planned activity for boys and girls and youth; hours of ministration to elderly people in the church; hours of helping needy families in the church's area;—all done in the name of Christ! (Let none say they are incapable of doing "something" for the church. Even physically incapacitated or shut-in members can pray for the church and its program, one hour each week).

At this three-quarter mark, there are indications that we have come a long way. As we have reviewed the total program we find that we still have a long way to go, and the time is so short! We are sure that the application of our money and our time, in the vision of the greater program of the Church, at home, Denominationally and eternal, will result in a great, God-blessed increase of souls won to Christ for eternity. W. S. B.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. The Father-Son banquet was held the evening of May 14th.

WABASH, INDIANA. COLLEGE CORNER BRETHREN. From the College Corner bulletin we learn that "Ralph Miller, a former member of this church, reunited with the membership here (May 13th).) At a called business meeting . . . he was given a call to the ministry of the Gospel in the Brethren Church."

GOSHEN, INDIANA. The Father-Son banquet was held the evening of May 22nd, with Sheriff Vernon Cripe as speaker.

COMING EVENTS

ADRIAN, PENNA. BRUSH VALLEY BRETHREN. Evangelistic services, June 11-24. Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, Evangelist; Rev. David L. Rambsel, Pastor.

MIAMI VALLEY BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY
West Alexandria Brethren Church
West Alexandria, Ohio
Sunday, June 10, 1956
Registration 3:30-4:00
Afternoon Service 4:00-5:30
Special Speaker at 7:00 p. m. service

NORTHEASTERN OHIO JUNIOR BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY
Ages 7 through 12
Saturday, June 9th
11:00 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. D. S. T.
Trinity Brethren Church, Canton, Ohio
7th and Gibbs, N. E.

There will be a 35c registration fee, which will take care of noon meal. An offering will be taken to help get this group started.

Send reservations, no later than June 5th, to:
Rev. Robert Keplinger
1234 23rd St., N. W.
Canton, Ohio.

PROGRAM: Registration, Singspiration, Flannel Graph, Picnic Lunch, Visit the Zoo, Religious Film, Business Meeting, Devotions and Meditation.

Let us learn to give God time. God needs time with us. If we only give Him time—that is, time in the daily fellowship with Himself, for Him to exercise the full influence of His presence on us, and time, day by day, in the course of our being kept waiting, for faith to prove its reality and to fill our whole being—He himself will lead us from faith to vision; we shall see the glory of God. Let no delay shake our faith. Of faith it holds good: first the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear. Each believing prayer brings a step nearer the final victory. Each believing prayer helps to ripen the fruit and bring us nearer to it; it fills up the measure of prayer and faith known to God alone; it conquers the hindrances of the unseen world; it hastens the end. Child of God! give the Father time. He is long-suffering over you. He wants the blessing to be rich, and full, and sure; give Him time, while you cry day and night.—Andrew Murray in THE TREASURY OF ANDREW MURRAY—(Revell).

PROGRAM OF THE SIXTY-NINTH INDIANA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

June 11th to 14th

Brethren Retreat

Shipshewana Lake, Indiana

Conference Theme: "Deepening Wells of Faith"

Conference Text: "And Isaac digged again . . . and found a well of springing water." Gen. 26:18, 19.

THE PROGRAM

Pianist .....Mrs. Max Miller
Organist .....Mrs. Woodrow Immel
Chorister .....H. D. Hunter

Monday Evening—June 11

7:30- 8:00 Devotional Service
Music
Scripture and Prayer.....R. K. Higgins
Appointment of Credential Committee
Appointment of Committee on Committees
8:00 Hymn
Conference Sermon .....Smith Rose

Tuesday Morning—June 12

7:15 Breakfast
8:10- 9:20 Simultaneous Sessions
W. M. S., Ministerium, Laymen
9:30-10:15 Conference Prayer Period with Memorials V. E. Meyer
Announcements
10:15-11:00 Bible Lecture .....E. M. Riddle
"The Sovereignty of God"
Music
11:00 Moderator's Address .....R. K. Higgins
12:00 Dinner

Tuesday Afternoon

1:00- 2:00 S. M. M., Boys' Brotherhood
1:30- 2:30 Scripture and Prayer .....R. G. Holsinger
First Business Session:
Report of Credential Committee
Report of Ministerial Delegates
Report of Conference Treasurer
Report of Statistician
2:30- 3:30 Sunday School Board
3:45- 4:45 W. M. S.
5:30 Supper

Tuesday Evening

6:45- 7:30 Vesper Service
Speaker .....Claud Studebaker
7:45- 8:15 Musical Program .....Mrs. Max Miller
8:15- 9:00 Indiana Laymen .....Harold Hummel
Benediction

Wednesday Morning—June 13

7:15 Breakfast
8:10- 9:20 Simultaneous Sessions
W. M. S., Ministerium, Laymen
9:30-10:15 Conference Prayer Period .....V. E. Meyer
Announcements
10:15-10:45 Ashland College and Seminary
Dr. Glenn Clayton
10:45-11:30 Bible Lecture .....Henry Bates
"The Message of 'Ecclesiastes' to the Brethren Church"
12:00 Dinner

Wednesday Afternoon

1:00- 2:00 S. M. M., Boys' Brotherhood
1:30- 2:30 Scripture and Prayer .....Paul Tinkel
Business Session:
Report of Credential Committee
Report of Committee on Committees
Election of Officers
2:30- 3:30 District Mission Board
3:45- 4:45 Conference Trustees Session
5:30 Supper

Wednesday Evening

6:45- 7:30 Vesper Service
Speaker .....Woodrow Immel
7:45- 9:00 Indiana W. M. S.
Message ....Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bischof
9:00 Campfire in charge of Brethren Youth

Thursday Morning—June 14

7:15 Breakfast
8:10- 9:20 Simultaneous Sessions
W. M. S., Ministerium, Laymen
9:30-10:15 Conference Prayer Period ....V. E. Meyer
Announcements
10:15-10:45 Brethren Publishing Company .....
10:45-11:30 Bible Lecture .....Spencer Gentle
"The Holy Spirit of God"
12:00 Dinner

Thursday Afternoon

1:00- 2:00 Boys' Brotherhood
1:30- 3:30 Scripture and Prayer ...Edwin Puterbaugh
Final Business Session:
Committee Reports: Credential, Ministerial Examining Board, Young Men and Boys' Brotherhood, Auditing, Resolutions, Brethren Youth Board.
Time and Place of next Conference.
3:45- 4:45 W. M. S.
5:30 Supper

Thursday Evening

6:45- 7:30 Vesper Service
Speaker .....A. J. Tinkel
7:45- 9:00 All-Indiana Brethren Youth Rally
Speaker .....Phil Lersch

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Theme: "Send The Light"

Chorister—Mrs. Onie Puro, Goshen
Pianist—Mrs. Henry Bates, North Manchester

THE PROGRAM

Tuesday Morning—June 12
8:10-9:20

Prelude
Hymn
Devotions .....Teegarden
Business
Memorial Service .....Muncie
Memorial Prayer

Tuesday Afternoon
3:45-4-45

Tea .....New Paris W. M. S.

Wednesday Morning—June 13
8:10-9:20

Prelude
Hymn
Devotions .....Corinth
Business—Election of Officers
Banner Societies recognized
Project Offering—Flora
Prayer of Dedication

INDIANA CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Conference Moderator .....R. K. Higgins
Vice Moderator .....Smith Rose
Secretary-Treasurer .....G. B. Hanna
Asst. Sec'y-Treas. .....R. G. Holsinger
Statistician .....Mrs. William Meinke

Wednesday Evening
7:45-9:00

Prelude
Meditation .....Mrs. Ward Tobias, Nappanee
Special Music .....Goshen
Message .....Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bischof
Benediction

Thursday Morning—June 14
8:10-9:20

Prelude
Hymn
Devotions .....Elkhart, Group I
Business—Final Business.....Installation of Officers
(Mrs. Russell Rodkey, National W. M. S. President)
Benediction

Thursday Afternoon
3:45-4:45

Prelude
Meditation .....Brighton
Special Music .....South Bend
Message .....Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bischof
Benediction

INDIANA MINISTERIUM PROGRAM

Tuesday—June 12th—8:10 A. M.

Devotions .....A. H. Tinkel
"The Preachers Power of Concentration"..W. E. Swihart

Wednesday—June 13th—8:10 A. M.

Devotions .....W. E. Thomas
"The Preachers Power of Attraction" .....J. D. Hamel

Thursday—June 14th—8:10 A. M.

Devotions .....T. Shannon
"The Preachers Power of Production" .....E. J. Black

NOTICE TO INDIANA CHURCHES:

According to the By-Laws of the Indiana District Conference, Article I, Section 4—"Conference expenses shall be provided for by each congregation contributing $1.00 for each delegate to which the church is entitled."

Conference Secretary,
G. Bright Hanna.

(Continued on Next Page)

BOYS' BROTHERHOOD

(Sessions—1:00-2:00 P. M.)

Tuesday

Speaker .....Rev. Thomas Shannon

Wednesday

Speaker .....Rev. Spencer Gentle

Wednesday evening—Brethren Youth Campfire

Thursday

Speaker .....Rev. Phil Lersch

Thursday evening—7:45-9:00

All-Indiana Brethren Youth Rally

Speaker .....Rev. Phil Lersch

SISTERHOOD OF MARY AND MARTHA

Theme: "The Beauty of Christ"

Theme Song: "Altogether Lovely"

Tuesday — June 12
10:00-11:30 A. M.

S. M. M. girls attend services in the auditorium

1:00-2:00 P. M.

Songs
Greetings from District Officers
Devotions ..... Burlington
Special Music .....County Line
Topic: "The Beauty of Knowing Christ" ..Mrs. Rodkey
Business .....Appointment of Committees
S. M. M. Benediction

Wednesday — June 13
10:00-11:30 A. M.

S. M. M. girls attend services in the auditorium

1:00-2:00 P. M.

Songs
Devotions ..... Nappanee
Special Music .....North Liberty
Topic: "The Beauty of Following Christ"
Mrs. Robert Holsinger
Business .....Election of Officers
Reports of Committees
S. M. M. Benediction

5:00 P. M.

Weiner Roast at the Sisterhood Cottage

Thursday — June 14
10:00-11:30 A. M.

S. M. M. Girls attend services in the auditorium

12:30 P. M.

Lakeside Service

Songs
Devotions ..... Warsaw
Special Music .....Ardmore

1:00 P. M.

Annual luncheon for S. M. M. girls and patronesses

Songs
Topic: "The Beauty of Sharing Christ" ....Bea Bischof
Ingathering of funds by the officers
Consecration Prayer
Installation of Officers
S. M. M. Benediction

Song Leader—Bonnie Swihart
Luncheon favors—Roann

INDIANA DISTRICT CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Conference Board of Trustees:

1956—Lloyd Miller, Roann
1957—Joe Everitt, Shipshewana
1958—Mrs. B. J. Rohrer, Treasurer, 216 Kenyon, Elkhart; Everett Miller, New Paris
1959—Mrs. U. J. Shively, Nappanee
H. D. Hunter, North Manchester
1960—W. I. Duker, R. 5, Goshen

Nominees For College Trustees:

W. E. Swihart, Ivan Ronk

District Mission Board:

1956—Charles Smith, Secretary, Elkhart
1957—C. A. Stewart, President, Flora
1958—Max Miller, Nappanee
1959—Claud Studebaker, Loree
1960—Glenn Cripe, 1113 E. Ft. Wayne St., Warsaw

Ministerial Examining Board and District Evangelist:

1956—J. M. Bowman (moved from district)
1957—C. A. Stewart
1958—Claud Studebaker

District Sunday School Board:

1956—Robert Higgins; Smith Rose
1957—J. D. Hamel; W. E. Swihart
1958—Henry Bates; Austin Gable

General Conference Executive Committee:

Max Miller, Thomas Shannon

Committee On Naming Delegates-At-Large:

G. B. Hanna, A. H. Tinkel

Auditing Committee:

William Meinke, Mrs. Harold Tusing, Ethel Cripe

Resolutions Committee:

E. J. Black, R. G. Holsinger, A. J. Tinkel

Placement Committee:

Mrs. Joe Everitt, Mrs. Bert Nordblad, Mrs. Harvey

Brethren Youth Board:

Mrs. J. E. Berkshire, Sisterhood
J. D. Hamel, Sunday School Board
V. E. Meyer, Boys' Brotherhood
Phil Stout, Southern B. Y. President
Marlan Miller, Northern B. Y. President

Young Men and Boys' Brotherhood Work:

V. E. Meyer, Herbert Gilmer, J. E. Berkshire

Ministerial Association:

President—R. K. Higgins, Elkhart
Vice President—J. D. Hamel, South Bend
Secretary-Treasurer—G. B. Hanna, College Corner
Ass't. Sec'y-Treas.—Woodrow Immel, Milford

District Laymen:

President—Clarence Sholly, South Bend
Vice President—Ted Hevel, North Liberty
Secretary-Treasurer—H. D. Hunter, North Manchester

Woman's Missionary Society:

President—Mrs. H. D. Hunter, North Manchester
Vice President—Mrs. Max Miller, Nappanee
Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. C. A. Stewart, Flora
Ass't. Sec'y-Treas—Mrs. George Loucks, Goshen

Sisterhood of Mary and Martha:

President—Susan Miller, Goshen
Vice President—Lois Berkshire, Teegarden
Secretary—Joann Miller, Elkhart
Treasurer—Virginia Bowman (moved from district)
Patroness—Mrs. J. E. Berkshire, Teegarden
Ass't. Patroness—Mrs. V. E. Meyer, Nappanee

What's Doing in the Churches

REVIVAL AT ST. JAMES, MARYLAND

In June 1922 following graduation we left Ashland, Ohio, in our new Ford, taking part of three days for the journey to assume our first Pastorate at St. James, Maryland. We spent 3½ years here preaching at three points.

It was my happy privilege to return for a revival meeting from April 16th to 29th. Services were held each evening with the exception of the last Saturday Evening. The highest attendance was the two Sunday Evenings with 140 and 150 in attendance. The average attendance for the 15 preaching services reached near the 100 mark.

The weather was rainy and cold but in a sense was to our favor. Had it been nice and warm the farmers, gardeners and housekeepers would have been busy.

Many former members attended at least a night or two and it was a joy to meet these again. But 30 years have made a great change. Many who were among the young folk then, now have young people of their own. And I am happy to know that many of these are still faithful to the Church.

In more recent years the community has begun to grow, with many new houses on the Sharpsburg Pike, and now beginning on the Downsville Pike. This is giving the Church an opportunity she did not have some years ago. Already they are reaching some of these families.

I not only enjoyed working with the people but also with their faithful Pastor, Brother Ankrum. He has done a fine piece of work during his seven years. Great improvements have been made at the Church. And with a little more vision and cooperation they will continue to grow and show progress.

The Church has a fine group of young people and they were most faithful in their attendance. They also have a large young married people's class. These need to feel the responsibility of the work of the Church as well as the Sunday School.

I want publically to thank the people for their kindness, fine spirit shown and the splendid love offering. Also to thank Brother and Sister Ankrum for opening their home to me. Mrs. Ankrum was away teaching during the day so we preachers had the freedom of the house. It was indeed a happy two weeks of Christian fellowship.

Dr. Joseph Shultz held a S. S. Clinic at Louisville during the first Sunday of my absence, and continued for 3 more evenings. The people appreciate very much his efforts and help to our growing Sunday School.

A Gospel team from Ashland College had charge the last Sunday and joined our Brotherhood boys in their public service Sunday Evening.

Our attendance at Louisville continues to be good. There has been a nice increase since May 1955. Easter Sunday saw all previous records broken with 234 for S. S., and 280 for morning worship. Mother's Day, too, was a high mark with 192 for S. S. and 210 for morning worship. Our eight graduates were special guests. "Mr. Texas" was shown to the evening audience.

Our new planning committee is making plans for an expanded addition to our present building. The present auditorium, no doubt, will be enlarged with more S. S. rooms and rooms for one or two departments.

We will have our own D. V. B. S., this year, from June 4th to 15th. Plans are on the way for a good number at Camp Zion, and at State Conference at Linwood Park, Vermillion, Ohio.

L. V. King.

CARLETON, NEBRASKA

Time has swiftly passed since our Pre-Easter evangelistic services; however, we do not want to fail to report the services. Services opened Sunday evening, March 18th, with the pastor holding the first meeting. On Monday evening, Rev. Wilbur Thomas, a former pastor, came to serve as evangelist.

During the first week, challenging messages were brought to the church members. These were followed the second week with the evangelistic approach. Attendance was good from the very beginning, since many were anxious to meet their former pastor. Although there were no first-time decisions, we feel that the church as a whole prospered from the meeting. One teen-age girl

(Continued on Page 15)

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

LIVING

Sun-up and sun-down,
And between them the high blue arc of the sky,
And the hours that are to be lived, and I
The one who must live them . . . Oh, my heart,
Let us do splendidly our part;
God has done His: His clean hand turns
A golden dial and the dawn sun burns;
And the day is here with its glad surprise,
Unsullied and clean. Oh, heart be wise!
Oh, heart be strong as you take your way
Into this glorious unlived day;
Keep it beautiful, keep it fine,
Splendidly lived hours shine and shine
Like silver discs in the slanting sun
Long after the day is past and done.
Hold them, heart, for remembering . . .
A clean new day is a wonderful thing!

—Grace Noll Crowell.

EACH NEW DAY, as an added gift to the gift of life, is a new opportunity for action (Matt. 21:28). It is a fine day for heeding, and not for the hardening of the heart (Heb. 3:7, 8). Today is THE day because the "more convenient season" will never come (Acts 24:25). Today is the NOW of life (2 Cor. 6:2). "Procrastination is the thief of time" (James 4:13). If we have any message in life, today is the day to give it (Hebrews 3:13). "As ye go, preach . . . " Say it as you go. For we are "as the grass of the field, which TODAY IS . . . " (Matt. 6:30). Our Savior's ministry to Zacchaeus was "today" (Luke 19:5). Today is a day for consecration (Exodus 32:29).

Our Savior realized the brevity of life's day (John 9:4). Our faith should be prompt, obedient, and heroic (Heb. 11:10). Our preparation for Heaven has to be begun and finished in this world (Heb. 11:25, 26). Life is for our going forth to live as Christ would have us live (Titus 2:11-13; Rom. 12:2, 9). We do not want to go Home with our lessons undone.

"And this is the way it seemeth to be,
This life is a school for you and me;
For some the words are set to song,
For others, the lessons are hard and long;
Many a day are we tired and hot,
And the pages are marred by many a blot,
Some finish their task while the day is young,
We watch them leave us; one by one
They pass from our sight with a smile so sweet
While we bow in tears at the Master's feet . . . "

Today is for walking (activity). Let us walk with God (Gen. 5:24; 6:9); with Christ (Col. 2:6). Walking with Christ is conditional (Amos 3:3; 1 John 1:6, 7). Let our manner of walk be humble (Micah 6:8); honest (Rom. 13:13); as Jesus walked (1 John 2:6). Let us walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7); worthy (Eph. 4:1); in the light (Isaiah 2:5; 1 John 1:7). We are to walk with the righteous (Prov. 2:20), and in God's ways (Deut. 5:32, 33; Joshua 22:5). Remember that Satan is walking, too (Job 1:6, 7; 1 Peter 5:8). So, let us not walk in evil ways (Jer. 13:10), but by rule (Gal. 6:16; Phil. 3:16); in the truth (2 John 4:3, 4); and in the commandment of God blameless (Luke 1:6). If all the foregoing is true, then we shall "walk in Jerusalem just like John" (Rev. 3:4)!

"If Christians WERE Christians, as they profess,
Men would notice their glorified mien,
And say, 'What wondrous thing they possess
Who follow the meek Nazarene!"

"O Christians, remember you bear His dear name,
Your lives are for others to view.
You are living epistles, men praise you or blame,
And measure all Christians by YOU."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for June 10, 1956

THE GOSPEL OVERCOMES PAGANISM

Lesson: Acts 19:8-10, 18-20, 23-27; Eph. 5:15-18

"THE GOSPEL," according to Paul, "is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Rom. 1:16). To this the writer of Hebrews would agree, for he says, "God's message is alive and full of power in action" (Wms.—4:12). It is this inherent power in the message of salvation that transforms sinful men into Saints of God!

Thank God the Gospel does overcome paganism! Paul was able to witness the effectual work of the Gospel in the lives of thousands in Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Philippi, Thessalonica, and Ephesus.

We are interested in what happened in the city of Ephesus when Paul went there during his Third Missionary Journey. He had visited this city on his second journey, but had only stayed a few weeks. His second visit, on the third journey, lasted two years (Acts 19:10).

During his stay in Ephesus he found much work to do for God. R. Clark describes this city in these words: "Ephesus . . . was a city of some importance; . . . the capital city of the Roman province of Asia . . . It was a city noted for its heathenism and idolatrous practices. The great temple of Diana was there . . . It was an object of worship and veneration (Acts 19:27) . . . Attached to the temple were one thousand priestesses, who were prostitutes. This contributed greatly to the immorality of the people."

Most men would have become discouraged at the very thought of ministering in such a place! Had Paul hoped to overcome this heathen city in his own strength he too would doubtlessly have given up in despair. **But Paul believed in a Wonder-Working God!** He was assured that the task was not too great for **Him!**

In this Paul was not mistaken. Into one synagogue he went and spent three months, "disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God" (19:8). So diligent were his efforts that it was not long until it was said "that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the Word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks."

"But did the preaching of the Word produce results?" you may well ask. Remember that Paul was "a chosen vessel" unto the Lord (Acts 9:15). What he was able to accomplish he did so because of the indwelling power of the Risen Christ. It is not remarkable, therefore, that outstanding results were achieved even in pagan Ephesus. Listen: "And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul" (vs. 11); "And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds" (vs. 18); "So mightily grew the Word of God and prevailed" (vs. 20).

So victorious was the Gospel over paganism in Ephesus that a strong church was established there. A few years after his visit, while imprisoned in Rome, the Apostle Paul wrote a letter to the church at Ephesus. Calling to mind their former state he wrote: "And you did He make alive, when ye were dead through (because of) your trespasses and sins, wherein ye once walked according to the course of this world; . . . among whom we also all once lived in the lusts of our flesh; . . . but God . . . made us alive together with Christ" (ASV.—Eph. 2:1-5).

Can the Gospel overcome paganism? Hear the testimony of James Chalmers, martyred missionary of New Guinea. He spent 21 years among the South Sea Islanders; lived at least 9 years with the natives; ate and slept with the cannibal. "Wherever there has been the slightest spark of civilized life in the Southern Seas, it has been because the Gospel has been preached there; and wherever you find in the island of New Guinea, a friendly people, or a people that will welcome you, there the missionaries of the cross have been preaching Christ."

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

NEW MEMBERS CAMPAIGN

IT IS NO USE kidding ourseves, numbers **do** count! If you don't believe it, just watch your pastor taking mental notes at each service, counting those present. And you, too, probably can give the number of youth present at the last four or five meetings. We are not just "after numbers," but we must remember that if the "numbers" are not on the inside, then they are on the **outside.** We are not especially concerned about how many come to the meetings as far as advertising the success of our work is concerned, but we ought to be very concerned about the great number on the outside of the church.

This is as true of youth as it is true of adults. People go where everybody else goes. Ask most any young person who no longer attends the meetings at a given church, and the answer almost invariably will be, "There is nobody there I know any more." This means that there are no personal friends, none of the "gang" with which he likes to associate himself, attending the church that would otherwise be his choice.

For this reason, it behooves us to draw as **many** to our meetings as we possibly can. Over the past year I have seen the number of college young people attending Sunday evening services in Ashland jump from a withered ten and fifteen to a lively forty-five. It was done through certain capable leaders of the "gang" being interested enough in the things of the Lord and other young people to invite them personally and through advertising to the Sunday evening youth meetings. This was true, too, of the Wednesday evening prayer meetings. There have been as many as thirty-five present for prayer, whereas in years gone by I have seen five and seven comprise the entire group many times. I am sure that many of the group that attended these meetings throughout the months this year are young people who needed spiritual help, and who have been greatly uplifted by being with other strong Christian young people. Many who otherwise might have been outside the church looking in, in the future will now some day be active workers and spiritual leaders because of the influence of this fellowship—and, may we say, by selecting a mate, in some cases, who is of stronger Christian character.

WHERE TO GET NEW MEMBERS

First, we have a field to work with that is really an **old** one. WHERE IS THE OLD GANG? There are delinquents in every group that need to be contacted and won back into the field. **You are your brother's keeper!** You are partly responsible for the one who once was a member of your group but no longer attends. HAVE YOU EVER MENTIONED THAT YOU MISS HIM? There are individuals, too, who have visited the meetings fairly often who have never become one of the gang. Let's go out to get them and make them one of the group.

Again, there are always individuals who have attended Sunday School classes but never come to the regular fellowship meetings. There is a surprise in store for those youth who have never been too interested in the Sunday evening meetings. See that your young people extend them a hand and invite them to the meetings. They will learn that the Sunday evening fellowship meetings are the most unique of the whole church, and in a sense more especially for young people than any other meeting. This will do **more** than just win the individual to the group; it will transform the fellowship meetings (enough participating!) into a going campaign for the entire youth department of the church.

Also, every youth has friends and acquaintances in school who can be invited to attend. Why not consider that Christ wants His youthful followers to be missionaries wherever they are, even while still in school? Youth have a greater appeal to other youth than adults. Let a

couple of young people approach a friend and urge him to come to the meetings, and if they are capable, if he is not a Christian, to accept Christ as Saviour.

IT TAKES A LITTLE EFFORT

Anything worthwhile is worth working for. In this case the work will be directed toward the winning of someone of the above-mentioned groups to the Lord and to the fellowship group.

BEGIN BY MAKING LISTS OF PROSPECTS. You must know where you are going and whom you wish to contact. Think of the benefits to your group as it increases in number. Think of the joy that you will be bringing to those whom you win. Think of the honor you will bring to the Lord.

USE MATERIALS, VISIT THE PROSPECTS. You will be surprised what can be done, and how much fun it can be just making contacts. You will be surprised how the Lord will honor your efforts.

MAKE YOUR PROGRAMS WORTH IT. You won't keep them if your meetings aren't interesting. Make use of the "new blood" for special music and other interesting parts in the programs. Combat cliques. It is difficult to do among youth who feel rather insecure among strangers, but it can be done with the proper spirit and purpose. Try this program and give a report of your results to the National Brethren Youth office, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.

GOD USES BROKEN THINGS

It takes the broken soil to grow
And ripen fields of grain;
And overspreading broken clouds
To give refreshing rain.

'Tis broken grain that gives you bread,
And broken bread that gives
Us strength for every moment, hour;
By broken things man lives.

A broken spirit, contrite heart,
Our God will ne'er despise;
For pleasing are these things to Him,
Therein repentance lies.

It was the alabaster box
As broken, emptied, poured
A fragrant, rich and rare perfume
Anointing Christ, our Lord.

And 'Twas the heart of Him Who died
Upon Mount Calvary;
As broken, bleeding thereupon,
That ransomed you and me.

---Exchange.

SUMMER CAMP DATES

MONTH OF JUNE

Camp Juniata (Pennsylvania):

(Entriken, Penna.)

Seniors-Young People June 24-July 1

Camp Zion (Ohio):

(East Sparta, Ohio)

Juniors . . . June 17-23
Intermediates-Seniors . . June 24-30

Camp Shipshewana (Indiana):

(Brethren Retreat, Shipshewana Lake, Ind.)

High School . . . June 17-23
Southern Ind. Intermediates June 24-30

Laid to Rest

MACK. Mrs. Ida Mack, widow of the late David Mack, departed this life April 15th, at the home of a son-in-law and daughter in Newark, Ohio, at the age of eighty-five years. Had been in failing health for ten years, but her last illness was a matter of a few months. Member of the Glenford Brethren Church, where her family is active in the work of that Church. Funeral services were held from a Newark Funeral Home, with this Pastor officiating. Burial was at Glenford.

William S. Crick.

* * *

CRUEA. Mrs. Elizabeth Cruea, passed away to be with the Lord, Jan. 15, 1956 at her home in Muncie, Ind. Was a charter member of the Brethren Church and a faithful and devoted member until her health made it necessary to retire from the more active work of the church. Survived by her husband, Curtiss Cruea, senior deacon in the church. Her sweet Christian spirit was a blessing to all who knew her. Funeral services by the pastor.

E. J. Black, Pastor.

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

MUSHROOM CHRISTIANS

COME SPRING and we go out into our woodlots to gather the mushrooms. This odd "plant" is beautiful, springing up over night, clinging to a bit of rich soil, decaying leaves, or an old stump. The mushroom owes its very existence to the good soil, for it never puts down roots, and as the saying goes "it is here today and gone to morrow." Our friends come from miles to gather the mushroom, it being the most exotic of our native foods here in central Illinois. We say they are temperamental too, because you must go at the right time to pick them. If you don't they flop over, wilt, and soon dry up.

The mushroom Christian too is very gay and sometimes lovely to look at. But he has to be chairman or he won't serve, he must sit in the front row of the choir or he won't sit, and he must be consulted first if any changes are made in the remodeling plans. So it goes and if we fail to pamper and humor him, he rises up in anger and disgust, dries up and floats away. Sometimes he springs up again in another church or worse yet he goes out into the world lost forever.

He leaves behind the faithful, loyal Christians on which he and the church depend for existence. We must seek richness and depths for our roots. Let us live the Christ-like life day by day proving ourselves to God and our neighbor by what we do and the things we say. For constant spiritual growth we need daily study, prayer, and meditation. I don't want to be a mushroom Christian, do you?

"Therefore my beloved brethren be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58.

Mrs. Everett Snoke,
Oakley, Illinois.

The emptiest and most unhappy occupation in the world is that of trying to act like a Christian when you are not a Christain. Religion is a life and not a drug. When I ride an elevator I don't stoop down and take hold of the edge of the elevator to try to help it get up to the tenth floor. I usually lean back in one of the corners and say to myself, "This is a good deal." I have heard people say, "I am going to live right if it kills me." From the looks of some of the people to whom I preach, I have been led to believe that that is exactly what is happening. Living the Christian life never killed anyone, but trying to live like a Christian when you are not one does place you in the hands of death.—C. Gordon Bayless in AND BE YE SAVED (Revell).

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

(Continued from Page 11)

rededicated herself to the Lord, and many Christians were strengthened.

On Friday of the second week, the church was glad to greet the evangelist's family, who came to spend the week-end at Carleton. A fellowship supper was held in the church basement to renew acquaintances and discuss old times.

Communion services were held on Sunday evening, April 1st, with Rev. Thomas helping the pastor. A very good crowd, including the young people, attended this sacred service.

May God bless Rev. Thomas and his family in their work in Leon, Iowa.

Claude Stogsdill, Pastor.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

A "WAILING CRY" OR A TRIUMPHANT ASSURANCE

"And lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age." Matt. 28:20.

IN HIS ADDRESS at the grave of his brother, Robert Ingersoll declared that " . . . we cry aloud, and the only answer is the echo of our wailing cry." But Robert Ingersoll was mistaken; man's cry is met by more than echo. God answers the cry of man with the revealed Word. And this is more than wistful or wishful thinking on the part of man. This Word is His message of comfort, strength and guidance for His children who dwell upon the earth.

And this Word, the Bible declares, once became flesh and dwelt among men. He was born as other men are born, grew as other men grow, during the years of His earthly sojourn ministered and exemplified the rich grace of God to men, suffered the indignities of a Roman crucifixion to expiate for the sins of men, arose from the dead, ascended to heaven, and from His place beside His Heavenly Father he continues to guide and bless His Children.

It was directly from the bosom of the Father that Jesus came to His earthly Incarnation, and for three years He revealed the Father's love and concern for His children, and then went back to share the Father's glory. Now it is as out of the pages of a Book that He comes to us. But He comes as the same living, loving presence, as when He came to Peter and John along the shores of Lake Gennesaret. And to all He imparts the same new life of strength and power and warmth as He gave to to His faithful disciples during His earthly sojourn.

And it is the beauty of our text that Jesus assures the true believer that He is not merely a tender memory, nor yet a future hope only, but that He is an ever-present, living presence. And it is such that He would have us think of Him and seek fellowship with Him.

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

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Birth Certificate

Nancy Longanecker Moser

Story starts on Page Four

Southeastern District Conference Program in this Issue

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The W. M. S. held their public service Friday evening June 1st. Rev. Reuben Cantril was the scheduled speaker.

GATEWOOD, W. VA. Brother Hays K. Logan, in a note to the Editor says, "The Mother and Daughter banquet was held Friday evening, May 25th. Forty-one were present. The guest speaker was Mrs. Blake, of Garton, W. Va."

GRATIS, OHIO. Gratis Brethren were hosts to the Gratis High School Baccalaureate service the evening of May 20th. Gratis High School commencement speaker on the Tuesday following, was Dr. Glenn L. Clayton, President of Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.

ASHLAND, OHIO, GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Brother H. William Fells notes that he held a week of revival services, April 1—8, in the North Fairfield Union Church, which is pastored by Ashland Seminarian Glenn Grumbling. There were nine first time confessions and one rededication. Brethren Fells and Grumbling conducted baptismal services for those making first time confessions, on May 20th.

ROANN, INDIANA. Brother Thomas Shannon reports the reception of 12 new members, by baptism, the last Sunday in April.

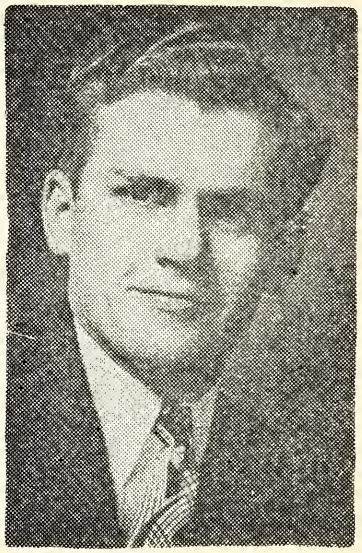
TUCSON, ARIZONA. Brother Vernon Grisso reports an attendance of 42 at the get-together and picnic at Phoenix for Phoenix and area Brethren, held on May 13th. Of these, 27 were from Tucson, and 15 from Phoenix.

COMING EVENTS

ADRIAN, PENNA. BRUSH VALLEY BRETHREN. Evangelistic services, **June 11-24.** Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, Evangelist; Rev. David L. Rambsel, Pastor.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Mortgage Burning and Rededication Service—**June 17th**—Rev. J. Milton Bowman, former Pastor, speaker at 10:15 A. M. service. Rev. V. E. Meyer, Pastor.

DR. JOSEPH R. SHULTZ tenders his resignation as Field Representative of the National Sunday School Association



DR. JOSEPH R. SHULTZ, has tendered his resignation to the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church as Field Representative. His resignation will take effect August 31, 1956.

Brother Shultz in tendering his resignation to the Board, said,

"With this resignation I want to express my deepest thanks to the Board, and to you as individuals, for your kindness and cooperation. I have indeed appreciated the many warm courtesies extended to me as your representative.

"I am also thankful for your renewed realization of the strategic importance of Christian Education today in the life of the Church."

Brother Shultz began his work with the Association two years ago. During this time he has traveled extensively among the Brethren Churches, working in the areas of Leadership Training, Sunday School Extension, and General Church Promotion.

No announcement has been made by Brother Shultz concerning his future plans.

The Editor's Pulpit

Are You Sure?

MANY TIMES WE HAVE TALKED to people who had a measure of doubt as to whether or not, that, if they should die, they would go to heaven.

Others have expressed themselves that "we will not know until after we die whether or not we go to heaven."

Still others are apparently unconcerned as to future status.

We would very definitely point out that since this life is a preparation for the next, and since the next life shall never cease to be, nor shall we ever change or be able to change our status, we'd better give it our utmost concern.

There's no doubt about man's eternal nature. The creation of man involved three things—the formation of his body from the clay, the breathing into his nostrils the breath of life, and his becoming an eternal soul. This is the "nut-shell" version of man's creation in Genesis 2:7. It's all there!

Sin was received into the human race by the failure of our first parents—bringing the curse of death to both body and soul. To the body—disease, sickness, pain and death. To the soul—a living death in Hell, which Christ says was prepared for the devil and his angels.

It is to be noted that in all this, the fact of death is recognized as is (in all races and climes) an awareness of life after death!

Pagans, and their idol sacrifices; their pilgrimages to the highlands and river sources; Indians and their "happy hunting grounds"; all point to the inherent fact of immortality. Why is it that even among the most pagan peoples there is this consciousness of a continuation of life after the cessation of this one? Why is there fear, and superstition and the death wail, when the hour of death arrives? The answer is simple. Man is born an eternal soul in a fleshly body. The knowledge and consciousness of this nature is a part of our personality, and we can no more escape it than we can the fact that the sun rises in the morning and sets in the evening.

Why then, in view of the uncertainty of life, and the certainty of a life after death, do we continue to dwell with doubts in our mind as to the nature of and the preparation for that life?

Since sin is the cause of separation from God; since sin is what dooms a man to eternal living death apart from God, then it is sin which must first of all be dealt with in order to give man assurance of eternal righteousness. Sin was reckoned with on Calvary, when Christ died and shed His blood. This was atonement for sin. By faith, then, all who see Him as Saviour, believe in Him and accept and follow Him, receive forgiveness for sin. Not just temporary forgiveness, but eternal forgiveness.

Then we are able to say with Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day." II Tim. 1:12. The danger comes when we are led astray by our own desires into a life of sin. Walking, though, in faith believing, meeting temptation in the power of the Lord, giving true penitence when overtaken in sin, we are assured of eternal righteousness in Him who said, "Because I live, ye too shall live."

Yes, dear friends, we can know that we are on our way to heaven. With Edwin Hatch we can say,

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God;
So shall I never die,
But live with thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Nancy Longanecker Moser

ONE HUNDRED and thirty five years ago, in the County of Fayette, on Brown's Run, was born a second child into a German home. The county was named in honor of General Lafayette who had come from France to help the Colonists in their struggle for freedom from England. The date was September 27, 1821, when this daughter was born. However we have an old obituary stating that the year of the birth was 1827, which the writer feels is a typographical error. In this type of work contradictions and conflicts in material meets the author on every hand. A "Fact" today is contradicted tomorrow. The parents were Joseph and Sarah Mack Longanecker. The second child born to this union was a daughter to whom they gave the name of Nancy, after her maternal grandmother Nancy Mack, wife of Jacob. The young daughter was born into a home already well supplied with step-brothers and sisters, as well as an older brother. At the time of her birth, the grandfather Jacob was occupying the Mill site and was operating it with his adjoining 40 acres plus of land. Leckrones, Longaneckers and Macks were prominent settlers in that day on the Run long long ago, in that newly settled section of South Western Pennsylvania.

In this day and age when birth certificates are a "must," the German people knew about them and used them. The writer was loaned the original birth certificate by its present owner, Mrs. Matilda Sangston of Washington Street, Masontown, and a cut was made therefrom. The certificate, a work of art is well preserved. It is of considerable size, being 13½ by 16½ inches. It is in colors red and yellow with the colors apparently undimmed by age. In examining the document it was noticed who ever filled it out added an "e" in the Mack name spelling it Macke. Nevertheless it must have been an advanced step to issue such an ornate birth certificate in a simple Dunker home. Yet we have information that baptismal certificates were issued by the Brethren in Eastern Pennsylvania in 1825.

When Nancy Longanecker was born in Brown's Run there was not any church building of Dunker faith in the community. It was not until some 14 years later that one was built. Up and until then they worshipped in their homes. The home of Jacob Mack, hard by the Mill was used as a gathering place until later on they were able to build a church upon the hill just South and overlooking Masontown.

In 1835 when Nancy was fourteen years of age definite steps were taken to erect a church edifice. Ephraim Walters donated a lot upon the hill top on his land South of Masontown. John DeBolt who owned a saw mill agreed to saw the lumber. Lumber was plentiful and at times they were glad to get the land cleared. Assembling at appointed times and donating their labor they found that when 1836 had rolled around they were in possession of a commodious frame house 40 by 60 feet in size. This church was used for their worship until June 30, 1887. It was then rebuilt. Joseph Moses was the Contractor for the erecting of the original house and Ephraim Walters and Samuel Aughey (Ache) were the Trustees. Jacob Mack, living on the Mill site taken over from his father was one of the first Pastors. We do not have the date of his ordination. Jacob Mack, the father of the Elder had in the meantime emigrated to Ohio, settling near Brownsville, Licking County.

Under the zeal of those enthused by their faith, the work grew. It was soon decided to launch out into new fields. We have the information given in "Two Centuries of the Church of the Brethren in Western Pennsylvania," the following information relative to the establishment of the second place of worship. "On September 15, 1837, William Moser of Georges Township sold to Samuel Ache, Ephraim Walters and Daniel Moser, trustees for the 'Georges German Baptist Association,' fifteen and one-half perches of land in Georges township for the purpose of erecting a church. In 1838, a log building, the Grove church was erected."

The location of this church building was a few miles West of the present village of Fairchance. To the East was the mountain wall and on every hand was a display of the beauties of nature. The Author while Pastor of the Masontown Brethren church drove from time to time by the side of the church location, long since abandoned but could see the charm of its natural setting. It was this church which for a time promised to outgrow the mother church of "Fairview" at Masontown. The "Grove" church as it was called was the one to which the subject of this article belonged at the time of her death. Alexander Mack, the Masontown Merchant visited as a young man various activities such as "singings" and other types of meetings held there by the Brethren. Others talked of its erection and how progress was being made and spoke of its beauty. Churches were plain in

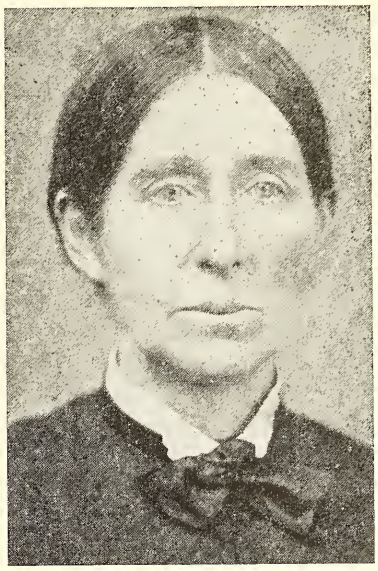
those days and furnished little more than at times protection from the elements. At that they were such an improvement over barns that they were appreciated.

In 1839, when James Quinter was 23 years of age, he with John Umstead visited the churches in Western Pennsylvania. Quinter made such an impression that he was prevailed upon to become their Pastor. He moved into the congregation in 1842 and lived on a small farm not far from Masontown. He preached, and taught school to care for his physical needs. This was the day of the "Free Ministry." This may be perhaps the first reference to a partially supported ministry. He was also given the privilege of doing evangelistic work outside the congregation.

A Sunday School was organized in the Grove church in 1859. Our Brethren forefathers, though they had Sunday Schools before Robert Raikes organized the ones in England for which he has often been credited with being first, the Brethren did not hastily organize them in their work. In 1861 the log building at "The Grove" as they commonly spoke of it was torn down and a frame building took its place.

On December 16, 1841 Nancy Longanecker and Joseph Moser were married. He was of the German Baptist faith. The date of his birth was April 20, 1814. Their occupation was that of farming. To the union of Joseph and Nancy Longanecker Moser was born five children. They were Sarah Ann Moser, born April 24, 1843, dying March 10, 1918. Her funeral was conducted in the Brethren Church of Uniontown by her Pastor, Rev. E. L. Miller. She had been a member of the Brethren church for 45 years. The second child to be born to the union was Daniel, who became one of Uniontown's grocers. The third child was Amanda who was born on August 21, 1847. She was married to Charles Griffith. Two of Amanda Moser Griffith's children live in Masontown. They carry on in the faith of their ancestors. They are Mrs. Charles Griffith (Matilda) Sangston of Washington Street, and Mrs. Earl Griffith (Sallie) Dugan also of Washington Street. These two are active in the work of the church. Mrs. Sangston's health is such that her physical activities are limited. The fourth to be born to Joseph and Nancy Moser was a son whom they named Altha. He was born October 16, 1849 and became one of Uniontown's prominent druggists. The fifth and last child to be born to the union was a daughter whom they named Matilda. She was born April 2, 1852.

Just when the Mosers moved to the Grove community and took up or continued farming is not known to the Author. Never the less they lived not far from the church. "Uncle" Dan Moser, a brother of Joseph also lived nearby the church. On preaching days both houses were favorite stopping places for those who came to worship. While perhaps they did not feel it so, there were those who felt that it was an imposition on these two families to be hosts each preaching day to so many people. Much feed was needed for the horses. When the barns were filled they were tied to the fence posts, rail fences or various places where it was convenient. If any brought their horse feed, it was not reported. This was more or less the custom of the day and the fine fellowship and pleasant visits among the brothers and sisters of the church seemed to be ample reward for the expense of



Nancy Longanecker Moser

the gathering. Not only the horses had to eat but their owners as well. The hard and heavy work of the week was made lighter when they could recall the pleasant experiences of the past and anticipate them on the next preaching Sunday.

Joseph Moser passed away on May 1, 1894 at the age of 80 years and 12 days. He was buried in the Lutheran cemetery, German Township. At the time of his death Rev. P. J. Brown, then living at Congress, Ohio, wrote an eloquent eulogy of Mr. Moser.

Nancy Moser saw many changes in the community and in the work of the church. She said good-bye as a young girl to her grand parents, Jacob and Nancy Mack, for whom she was likely named, who moved to the West, as Ohio was spoken of in those days. She listened to the fervent preaching of Elder James Quinter. She sat under the preaching of her Uncle, Jacob Mack, later said good-bye to him as he moved to Western Illinois. She saw her Uncle Jacob's wife sicken and die in 1855, to be laid to rest in the Fairview Cemetery. There was a rather unusual relationship in that the aunt by marriage to her uncle Jacob was also her stepsister as she was the daughter of Joseph Longanecker. Nancy Moser was four years of age when General Lafayette visited his friend, Albert Gallatin, at New Geneva, just south of Masontown in 1825. While she likely did not realize the importance of this event in the community she must have sensed that it was above normal. It was talked in all the homes of the community where the French General visited. A large Mural depicting this visit to "Friendship Hill," may be seen in the Masontown Postoffice.

Mrs. Moser is well remembered by her grand daughter, Mrs. Charles Sangston, of Masontown. Mrs. Sangston recently described much of her life and activities to

(Continued on Page 7)

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors. W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

BE PREPARED

THE SUNDAY MORNING OFFERING at General Conference is customarily designated for some specific home mission project. Sometimes our finances are at low ebb by the end of the week and, in consequence, our conference offering suffers. This year, begin planning for that offering now!

Save for the conference offering yourself, and have your church send a substantial contribution. The need is great!

Where does the conference offering go this year? To SARASOTA, to be sure. The board was unanimous in its agreement that this offering should go toward building a church at Sarasota. Let's begin to plan toward that offering now.

THE TEN DOLLAR CLUB

The Ten Dollar Club will issue another call about June 1 for Sarasota. Yes, we have already issued one call of the Club for Sarasota, but we are entitled to two calls per year, if necessary—and it is necessary. Up to the present time, $5,860 has been received for Sarasota—and that amount will not build a church; so we shall shortly be sending out another appeal and PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Make your contribution in any amount from $10 and UP.

Don't let the name TEN DOLLAR CLUB mislead you. Gifts of $25, $50, $200, $500, $1,000 are equally acceptable and will not jeopardize your standing in the Club. Many of you are more than $10 worth interested in building a church at Sarasota. Wouldn't you like to PROVE IT!

SPIRITUAL PROFITS

On our Argentina Radio Program Investment

(Taken from the letter of Harold E. Stacey in Argentina—to the office)

. . . You will without doubt be pleased to know that the radio work is really bringing in fruits. God has wonderfully used this means to bring many others into His fold. Last Sunday, in a fairly small town of Bernal in the south of Buenos Aires, just after the Lord's Supper, two men came along to the church and requested to speak to the pastor; they explained that they had come upon request of an elderly lady who was ill, lying in bed, with nobody in the world to look after her.

These men could not explain the reason why she wanted to speak to the pastor, but said that it had something to do with a radio program she listens to every Sunday and Tuesday evening.

The man to whom they made the request told them that someone would visit her tomorrow (Monday) as Sunday was a very busy day. The men insisted, however, that someone should go that moment as they feared she might not live through the night. So the pastor, with a member of his church, went along. They found the woman lying in bed seriously ill.

She told them her story and how she came to tune in to the radio broadcast on Sunday evenings and how she was trusting in the Lord as her Saviour. She had a doubt or two she wished to clear off her mind before she went to be with her Saviour in glory. The pastor cleared her doubts and she smilingly confided in Him who died for her on Calvary. This good woman passed away at 8 o'clock that evening. Another soul was plucked out of Satan's domain. This soul had no time to do "good works" nor to be baptized; all she did was what the thief on the cross did—she just simply trusted, that was all. If only the world today would do just the same—trust God's word, take God at His word and confide in Him. How easy and simple it is just to trust and obey. What a different world we might experience!

Through the New Testament

Another case was that of a woman who by chance tuned in on a Sunday evening to our radio broadcast. She wrote immediately for the gift of the New Testament with selected Psalms which we always offer after our releases free to whoever would care to write in. She began reading it according to the rubber stamp instructions on the first page; later she wrote, requesting literature. A few days after, she was surprised to receive the visit of a pastor at her door, who had gone along just to check up and see whether she had received the book.

At first she denied having written and having any knowledge of such a broadcast, but when the pastor pulled out of his pocket the same letter she had sent us in her own handwriting and signature, blushing, she admitted having done so. To make a long story short, after a time she began to come along to the church in her town. She was so interested that she managed to convince her husband, and he then also went along. The result: They were both baptized two Sundays ago and are members of the Evangelical church in their town of Burzaco. Another evidence of how the Lord is using these weekly radio broadcasts.

There are those of you who have very generously kept the supply lines moving so that the soldiers on the battlefields could do their job. One without the other may be useless, but united in mind and effort, souls are daily passing from darkness unto eternal light.

Dear friends, please do remember in your daily prayers before the Throne of Grace this: One of the greatest challenges of modern times is the Gospel radio work. Kindly bear in mind our next step "The Children's Hour" which, God willing, will shortly be another feature in our mutual radio effort.

NANCY LONGANECKER MOSER

(Continued from Page 5)

the writer. When asked as to the cause of her death, Mrs. Sangston replied, "just old age I guess." At that she was not old as we might measure age today. She was aged 74 years, 10 months and 13 days at the time of her death. The funeral service was conducted at her home near the Grove church by Rev. J. W. Fitzgerald. The old obituary loaned the Author by Mrs. Sangston speaks for itself. The Pastors of those days did not mince words. The interpretation may be placed upon the thoughts by the reader. We shall bring to a close the story of this faithful mother of the past by giving the obituary as given by one who knew her so well and who officiated at her last rites.

"MOSER—Our beloved and aged sister Nancy Moser, wife of brother Joseph Moser was born September 27, 1824 & departed this life August 9, 1896, aged 74 years, 10 months and 13 days. (The obituary states she was born in 1824 which evidently is in error, Author). She lived a consistent member of the Brethren Church for 52 years. She was united in marriage to brother Joseph Moser, Dec. 16, 1841. From this union sprang 5 children 3 daughters & 2 sons. The 3 daughters followed the example of father & mother. The two sons, although first class men, have neglected the one thing needful & are standing the cold, cold world, but men of such noble qualities can't long resist the prayers of such a mother as was theirs. Sister Moser a short time before her departure called in the elders and rendered obedience to the last command of St. James the 5th chapter. Her death was peaceful, a going to sleep in Jesus. The funeral sermon was preached at her residence near the Grove Church by the writer from Rev. 13:14 to a large gathering of people.

J. W. Fitzgerald."

Thus is numbered with the faithful one who was indeed a "Mother in Israel."

St. James, Maryland.

CORRECTION. Last month, in Brother Ankrum's historical article **(Brethren Evangelist, May 12, 1956)** the picture on page 6 was captioned erroneously. For those who are saving the articles we here give you the correct caption:

OLD HOME OF
JOSEPH AND SARAH MACK LONGANECKER
near Masontown

We suggest you get your copy and write the correct caption beside the picture. We thank Brother Ankrum for calling our attention to our error. We apologize to him and to our readers for the error. W. S. B.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

SOUND DOCTRINE MEANS SOUND THINKING

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine." I Tim. 4:16.

EVERY BIBLE STUDENT knows how strongly supported the gospel is with doctrine, and that the Gospel concerns the mind as well as the heart. Perhaps too much the congregation exacts from the pastor entertainment rather than instruction. Perhaps we get to think like the woman who said she did not need to go to Bible School; she had attended for sixty years and thought she knew enough. (I honestly think that she knew so little, after attending so long that she was afraid to have people find out how little she really did know after all.) To be a thinker we must have something as the basis of our meditations.

He who thinks that he knows so much of the Scriptures that he does not need to learn more has more conceit than real knowledge. Such should study that passage which admonishes us "Not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think" and should set himself to "search the Scriptures, for these are they which testify of me." And we know that the Scriptures are able to make us wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

It is not without significance that our earlier literature is saturated with Scripture. Those who wrote it lived in a religious atmosphere. Their thinking was colored by the things which they read. And their thinking was meaningful and purposeful. It was founded on divine logic, and could not be controverted. It can scarcely be said of present-day literature that it furnishes the basis for doctrinal soundness. Paul admonishes Timothy that by taking heed unto the doctrine and continuing in those doctrines he shall save both himself and them that hear him. And it is still true that we need to watch our thinking that we may be nourished up in the faith, and kept unto final and complete salvation.

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

PROGRAM FOR THE SIXTY-NINTH CONFERENCE of the SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE of BRETHREN CHURCHES

Oak Hill, West Virginia
June 19th to 21st, 1956

Conference Theme: "I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it." Rev. 3:8.

THE PROGRAM

Eastern Standard Time Observed

Tuesday afternoon—June 19

3:00 Song Service .....Mrs. June Allen, Leader
Devotions ..... Moderator
Welcome by local pastor
Announcements
Appointment of Credential Committee
Congregational Hymn
Sermon .....Dr. John F. Locke

5:30 Supper

Tuesday evening

7:30 Song Service
Devotions .....Isaac Litton, Vice-Moderator
Special Music
Greetings .....Rev. E. E. Hale, President Oak Hill-Scarbro Ministerial Ass'n.
Announcements
Offering
Moderator's Address..Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
Assignment of delegates to homes

Wednesday morning—June 20

8:30 Devotions .....Rev. James E. Ault
8:45 Address .....Dr. Joseph R. Shultz
9:30 Business Session
Report of Credential Committee
Election of Officers
Election of District Mission Board
Nomination of College Trustees
Report and plans for summer camps
Appointment of Committees
Resolutions; Time and Place
Greetings from Denominational Leaders present:
Brethren Youth Representative:
The new director .....Rev. Phil Lersch

11:00 Departmental Sessions
Woman's Missionary Society
Ministers and Laymen
Rev. L. O. McCartneysmith

12:00 Lunch

Wednesday afternoon

1:30 Devotions .....Rev. Hays Logan
Sermon .....Rev. E. L. Miller

2:15 Business Session
Minutes
District Mission Board report
Report of Committee on Conference Location
Selection of Board Members
Other Business

3:00 Woman's Missionary Society

5:30 Supper

Wednesday Evening

7:30 Song Service .....Mrs. Allen
Devotions .....Mrs. Bea Bischof
Special Music
Announcements
Offering
Illustrated Address by our Missionaries,
Rev. and Mrs. Bob Bischof

Thursday morning—June 21

9:15 Devotions .....Rev. Bruce Shanholtz
9:30 Sermon .....Rev. Freeman Ankrum
10:00 Business Session
Minutes
Reports
All Unfinished Business

CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Moderator .....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
Vice-Moderator .....Isaac Litton
Secretary-Statistician .....Rev. Milton M. Robinson
Treasurer .....Mark Logan

11:00 Departmental Sessions
Woman's Missionary Society
Ministers and Laymen (In charge of Laymen)
Dr. John F. Locke, Speaker

12:00 W. M. S. Banquet

Thursday afternoon

2:00 Song Service .....Mrs. Allen
Devotions .....Rev. George Drushall
Message .....Rev. Guy Ludwig
Installation of new Conference officers
Adjournment

DIRECTIONS FOR GETTING TO THE OAK HILL BRETHREN CHURCH

THOSE COMING from the East and North, should take U. S. 11 to Lexington, Va., turn westward on U. S. 60 to Chimney Corner, W. Va., about three miles past Hawk's Nest State Park. Then turn south on U. S. 21, about fifteen miles to Oak Hill. At the second traffic light in town, turn right. The Church is one block from there.

Milton M. Robinson, Conference Secretary.

What's Doing in the Churches

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Something new is always happening to us in Tucson. The Preacher is never satisfied with the "Status Quo" and tells us so. He is the first to push ahead. So we all take a big breath and push some more. Now it's Vacation Bible School in the evening, starting May 28th to June 10th. We have heavenly summer evenings so it should be a successful venture.

After that the camping program for youth and families with the Northern California churches near Yosemite National Park, will be shaping up. Much planning and enthusiasm has gone into this project. At present, 20 young people are signed up and several families. They raised money by box social, car washing and a call for contributions to the wholesome spirit of camping for religious training. It has all been very successful, the Youth have the money and are ready to go. While we are more than grateful to the California people for the liberal invitation to join them in their camp this year, the 950 miles each way has stirred us to start making plans already for a camp of our own next year.

On May the 8th, the W. M. S. sponsored a Mother-Daughter banquet and 100 mothers and daughters responded. The W. M. S. will continue their good work by presenting their annual public service while the Pastor is attending "camp" in California.

Just before Easter 18 persons made the good confession of faith and just this week 6 more were baptized, bringing our membership to 176. We are happy to report that general attendance in all services is about 30% above last year. For April our S. S. averaged 164 while on Easter we broke all records with 214 in S. S. and had 220 in the Worship service, just 5 years after our birth. We are happy also to announce that another big step ahead in denominational education was taken this spring when we put the **"Brethren Evangelist"** in every home in our congregation. We are getting a lot of fine comments from people that have had limited opportunity to know and read of the "workings" of the Brethren.

On June 3rd we are beginning early morning worship services at 8:30 Sunday A. M. before the Sunday School hour. We hope by Rally Day in October to have to add the 11:00 service again without discontinuing the early one. This is just another "push" the Reverend Grisso and his charming Marjorie have set us to. Blessings on them and you all.

Virginia Loveday
Corresponding Secretary
Tucson, Arizona.

ARDMORE BRETHREN CHURCH SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

There were sixty people present at the recent Spring Communion.

The Junior Sisterhood public service was given on Sunday evening, May 6th. The girls gave a short program and the film, "This My Son," was shown.

The Mother and Daughter banquet was held May 10th with the Laymen doing the serving. There were 125 mothers and daughters present. A missionary, Miss Ruby Hosteter, from Elkhart, was the guest speaker.

May 28th, Bob and Bea Bischof brought a missionary program in the evening.

Daily Vacation Bible School also began on May 28th and will continue each evening except Saturday and Sunday evenings for two weeks. The grand climax will be June 10th when the children will give their Bible School program for the benefit of their parents and friends.

Mrs. Marshall Harman, Corresponding Secretary.

TIOSA, INDIANA

Rev. O. C. Lemert has spoken of the revival at Tiosa, during the first two weeks of April, and of his appreciation of the fellowship enjoyed during that time, but he failed to tell how the Lord had blessed his work in the church.

Thirteen individuals, all of them young people, with their lives before them, made first time confessions. One

of these was the father of two small children and his decision completed the family circle in the church. Another, a young mother, came from another church and was baptized by triune immersion that she might accompany her young daughter who had just made her first confession.

On the afternoon of May 6th, our pastor, Rev. Wayne Swihart, assisted by Rev. Lemert, baptized and received them into the church. That morning, another young father had brought his letter from the Church of the Brethren that his family circle might be completed. It was truly a time of rejoicing among the Brethren.

The Spring Communion was held May 13th and it was a happy sight to see so many young people gathered around the Lord's table. However we needed the inspiration of the new recruits since we do have several older folks among us who are ill. One brother and his wife were anointed for healing and received the communion in their homes.

Another worth-while meeting at the church was on May 17th when about forty mothers and daughters gathered for their annual banquet. The program was rather unique in that it depicted the life of the child from infancy to the time when she was a grandmother and welcomed her children and grandchildren home. Each age was portrayed by the mother and daughter and made very pleasing fellowship between the two age groups.

To go back in time, Dr. Joseph Shultz held a Bible School work shop here October 23, 24 and 25th, which was well received. Acting on his advice, we now have a Primary and Junior Bible School with their own officers and teachers conducting their services. Each child and youth in their classes, upon completing certain requirements, has also been given a Bible, which they prize very much.

I should not forget to tell of the added improvements to the church itself. A new electric pump has water on tap, a new hot water heater has been installed and a new double sink had been added to the kitchen. The young married people's class had started the work by saving for the electric pump. Then one of the older couples purchased the hot water heater and the ladies of the W. M. S. bought the sink for the kitchen. So you see all the organizations are working together in harmony, for which we praise the Lord, for truly, "All things work together for good to them that love God . . ." Romans 8:28.

The W. M. S. held their public service March 2nd. Rev. Earl Riddle came "home" to speak to us and we used the occasion to have one of our "church family" dinners.

We pray that the Lord will continue to bless us and that we will be able to do His will.

Mrs. Otto Kath, Church Correspondent.

INDIANA DISTRICT CONFERENCE
Shipshewana Lake, Indiana
June 11th to 14th

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE
Oak Hill, West Virginia
June 19th to 21st

Laid to Rest

DICKERHOFF. Mrs. Etta V. Dickerhoff, faithful member of the Brethren Church for many years, died May 1st, 1956. Born April 13, 1884, Mrs. Dickerhoff, (nee Etta V. Baker) early in life united with the Brethren Church at Roann, Indiana. On November 14, 1907 she was united in marriage with Edwin Dickerhoff, also a member of the Roann Church. In 1931, after moving into the North Manchester community, Mrs. Dickerhoff brought her membership into the North Manchester Brethren Church and was a faithful and loyal suporter of the church as long as she was physically able. Survivors include her husband, two sons, and several grandchildren. Services conducted by her pastor; interment, Fairlawn Cemetery, North Manchester.

Henry Bates, Pastor.

ATTENTION: ALL SISTERHOOD GIRLS PLANNING ON ENTERING ASHLAND COLLEGE THIS FALL

HURRY before it's too late! Applications for the Sisterhood Myrtle Mae Snyder scholarship are being taken now. If there is a Sisterhood girl in your church who will be a freshman at Ashland College this fall urge her to apply. She should write to Carol Berkshire, Teegarden, Indiana, for information.

Sunday School Suggestions by Joseph R. Shultz

(Sponsored by the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church)

BRETHREN CHURCH CAMPING PROGRAM

THE BRETHREN CHURCH has perhaps accomplished more with her young people in summer camps than in any other phase of the program of Christian education. It possesses the basic characteristics of the church, the school, and the home all wrapped up in an ideal Christian setting. Therefore, let us sell this priceless program to our children, their parents, and the Church.

May we suggest that each church:

1. Use posters, bulletins, personal letters, 5 minute camp life skits in S. S. "Opening," Testimonies, etc.,
2. Appoint a Camp enrollment secretary, enlist,
3. Ask each eligible S. S. pupil individually,
4. Provide adequate information for the parents,
5. Provide adequate financial funds and personal help.

Following are the "Objectives of Brethren Church Camping" as outlined in the "Brethren Camp Manual." (You may have a copy of the "Manual" by writing to the N. S. S. A., Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.

OBJECTIVES OF BRETHREN CHURCH CAMPING

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." (Luke 2:52)

Spiritual

1. Christian camping provides an experience of Christian living through which campers come to a better understanding of the Christian faith, as revealed in the Word of God.
2. Camping also seeks to guide individuals to make a personal commitment to Christ.
3. Church camping helps campers to worship God through different expressions in the out-of-doors.

Educational

1. Camping seeks to increase the camper's knowledge of the Bible and its meaning for life.
2. Church camping provides the opportunity for the camper to increase his knowledge of the church, missions, and Christian outreach.
3. A definite objective of camp is to give the camper leadership training, and to enlist him in Christian service.

Social

1. Church camping guides the camper's experience so that he may make a more definite contribution to his home, church, and community.
2. Camping provides the opportunity for growing persons to learn how to live together happily and well.
3. Camping gives the young person a new perspective through the experience of being away from home.

Physical

1. Summer camping provides the experience of living in the out-of-doors where he gains new knowledge of God's nature, and the physical skill in using this nature.
2. Camping provides the facilities for every type of summer sport under supervision.
3. Christian camping enables the camper to have a wholesome and happy time.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

OLD AGE

Other hands must cleave the wood
And other hands must guide the plow.
My hands are willing, if they could
But ah, they cannot do so now.
So other hands must break the bread
And make the beds, and sweep and sew
And nurse the children when they tire,
And soothe away their childish woe.
For youth has gone like archer's shaft
That speeds away to seek its quest,
And now I sigh, where once I laughed;
Instead of action, I want rest.
But yet, I have a peace serene—
The "many mansions" are so near—
The Holy Spirit speaks within—
And Christ, my Savior, is more dear.

—H. A. and Bessie Thompson,
78 and 77 years of age.

THE ABOVE LINES are taken from Shakespeare's (Job 7:6, 7; 14:1, 2). The length of life is just a passing shadow (Psalm 102:11). We appear for a little time and we vanish away (Psalm 103:15-18; 144:3, 4). Time's distinctions in men disappear in death (James 1:9, 11; Prov. 23:5). We pass this life, but the Word of the Lord "endureth forever" (1 Peter 1:23-25).

"The young may die, and the old must die" (Josh. 23: 1, 2). In the wisdom of his old age Joshua sought to urge the people to be strict with themselves and to love the Lord their God (Josh. 23:11). His predecessor, Moses, in looking backward, gave his wonderful farewell address in the book of Deuteronomy.

"The young cannot look back and say,
'He led me thus and so;
Here is the blueprint of my life,'
But as we older grow

"It is a sweet and precious thing
In retrospect to see,
How through the myriad maze of roads
We might have taken, He

"Kept our soft wayward feet upon
The road He chose for us.
Now just around the bend there lies
The City Glorious.

"He who has kept us safe thus far,
And would not let us roam,
Will lead us gently by the hand
And take us sweetly Home.

"The young can only trust to Him,
And walk by faith; but we,
Those who have traveled longer roads,
And older grown—can see!"

And so the aged David charged his son Solomon to carry on in his stead (1 Kings 2:1, 2, 10, 11). Joseph gave instruction to his brethren before he died (Gen. 50:24-26). His father had given final counsel to him (Gen. 47:29-31). Israel gave his final blessing to the sons of Joseph (Gen. 48:8-11). He prophesied the history of the twelve tribes of Israel, and then died (Gen. 49:33). "The paths of glory lead but to the grave" as far as our bodies are concerned (Job 30:23), but ETERNITY IN ONE OF TWO PLACES WILL HAVE JUST BEGUN (John 5:28, 29).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for June 17, 1956

AMBASSADOR IN BONDS

Lesson: Acts 26:2-8, 19-23

"Sweet are the uses of adversity;
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones and good in everything.
I would not change it."

THE ABOVE LINES are taken from Shakespear's play, "As You Like It." The scene is the Forest of Arden: the speaker is the banished Duke. The Duke is speaking to his faithful followers, commenting on the good which has resulted from their adversities. He was wise enough to determine to make the best of his situation.

The Apostle Paul would have said "Amen" to these lines of Shakespeare. He had better reason than the Duke to feel that adversity can be sweet. Paul was God's Chosen Vessel, and, therefore, was under the providential care of the Omnipotent God! He had full assurance that "all things work together for good." While imprisoned in Rome he wrote to the Church at Philippi: "Now I want you to rest assured, brothers, that those things which have befallen me have actually resulted in the progress of the good news (Gospel)" (Williams—1:12). **A Christian with such an attitude is hard to defeat!**

In Acts 26, where our lesson is found, we find the Apostle Paul in Caesarea standing before Governor Festus and King Agrippa II. He is bound in chains (verse 29).

It was impossible to dampen the passion, zeal, and Godly enthusiasm of this man Paul! Others had tried to do so, but without success. In Antioch Paul and Barnabas were persecuted by the Jews, but they merely "shook off the dust of their feet against them," and moved on (13:51). Their journey took them to Lystra, where the

power of God was manifested in such outstanding fashion that a crippled man was healed. In spite of this, hatred against Paul was stirred up in the city, so that they stoned him and left him for dead (14:19). On Paul's second journey the people of Philippi scourged and imprisoned him and his companion. Still we read: "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God" (16:25).

All these events and more Paul described in II Corinthians 11:24-27: "Five times I have taken thirty-nine lashes from the Jews, three times I have been beaten by the Romans, once I have been pelted with stones; three times I have been shipwrecked, and once I have spent a day and night adrift at sea. I have served Him on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my own people, dangers from the heathen, dangers in the city, dangers in the desert, dangers at sea, dangers from false brothers, through toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, through hunger and thirst, through many a fasting season, poorly clad and exposed to cold" (Williams trans.)

In spite of these hardships and afflictions which came because of the Gospel—in spite of the fact he was now in chains—Paul was still an **Ambassador for Jesus Christ!** In this 26th chapter of Acts he boldly stands before King and Governor and relates once again the thrilling story of his conversion experience.

Having completed his story, he presses home the truth with these words: "King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest" (A. S. V.—26: 27). The King turned away from the Gospel that day, but Paul had given him an opportunity to receive the Word of God.

Felix, who had preceded Festus as Governor, had also heard the Gospel from Paul. "Felix . . . sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus. And as he reasoned of righteousness, and self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was terrified, and answered, Go thy way for this time; and when I have a convenient season, I will call thee unto me" (A. S. V.—24: 24-25).

No matter **where** he was, or **before** whom he stood, Paul was an **Ambassador for Jesus Christ.** As such his message was brief, but to the point: "We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God" (II Cor. 5:20).

Attention: All OHIO BRETHREN

A VERY IMPORTANT PIECE OF INFORMATION FOR ALL OHIO BRETHREN:

Trinity Brethren Church
7th & Gibbs N. E.
Canton, Ohio

THE CANTON CHURCH is the host Church for District Conference. As you are well aware, the time, place, and program have all been changed. At first this seems as though it would make it easy for the host church, but with each new change there is a new problem. We are asking your help and co-operation in promoting District Conference and in trying to make sure that everyone has a very enjoyable time.

The Conference will be held at Linwood Park on Lake Erie, just east of Vermillion, Ohio. The E. U. B. Church owns a Tabernacle, Chapel, Cafeteria, and several dormitories on the grounds. We have rented this for Conference. As you enter the Park you will have to pay a gate fee which entitles you and your passengers to use the other park facilities which do not belong to the Church. There is a special rate for those staying several days or it can be paid by the day. But you must pay this gate fee as you enter.

Conference will begin on Thursday morning, July 12, at 10 A. M., with registration and room assignments. This will be done in the Chapel behind the Tabernacle. Lunch will be served and the first session will be at 2 P. M. This is Daylight Saving Time. Conference will dismiss at the close of the Worship Service on Sunday morning, July 15. Each and every pastor and church delegate should plan to be present for this service.

Meals will be served on the grounds: Breakfast 75c, Lunch $1.00, and Dinner $1.25. For full time Conference the meals would cost $9.00 per person. Children under 12 can eat for half-price and there is usually no charge for children under 3.

Lodging will be available on the grounds also. It will be $1.00 per person per night in rooms accommodating two or three persons. Those desiring single rooms—$2.00 per night. However, there is only room for about 115, unless additional provisions are made, so it will be necessary that all reservations for Conference be in no later than June 20: Send them to:

Rev. Robert Keplinger,
1234 23rd St. N. W.
Canton 9, Ohio.

There are places for men, woman, couples and families. Several units have cooking facilities available. Make your reservation definite as to how many are in your group—name, address, church, age, sex; and also the time you will spend at Conference The best way is to come on Thursday morning and stay through Sunday morning. We will do our best to work out satisfactory arrangements for all. Meals and lodging can be found outside the park, but at a much greater expense. Each person must furnish bed linens and blankets. Pillows will be provided. Enjoy the fellowship and come for the full Conference.

Please publicize this and make sure the reservations are sent in as soon as possible. It looks very much as if the Conference will be the largest yet—and so—first reservations will get first choice. Not only are we working for a large crowd but for a large spiritual uplift. Let's each one do our part in promoting the program.

In His Service,
Rev. Robert Keplinger.

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

EVERY GENERATION can look back over the years and see that it made many changes in customs since the days of their fathers. In some cases these changes have come about for good, a mere adaptation to changing times and meeting needs in a changing world; in others the "younger generation" was rebelling against the domination of the former, seeking freedom from ideas and customs that they no longer deem worthwhile and beneficial. It is extremely difficult, and a precarious business of teaching and leading young people during that change, to keep it gradual and constant, and to make sure that the changes are not in sincerity of attitude toward worship.

When the matter is boiled down I believe it is the desire of each generation to have liberty, and to serve in the way that is peculiar to their own times. They are trying to do what Paul meant when he said to the Galatians, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." No generation has the right to dominate another, or to attempt to coerce others to live out their customs and ideas to the letter. They confuse customs with spirit when they do that. But on the other hand, no generation can educate itself entirely free from the advice and experience of the former. Mother and dad contribute heavily to the lives of their children, but the children will live in their own generation, adding to and detracting from the modes and manners of their elders according as they see fit. Many of these changes will be beneficial; many will be detrimental and prove to be seriously in error.

THE WAY OF FREEDOM

Christ came to make us free, and free we are if we serve Him, no matter what others may think of us, or what they may desire to do to control our very lives.

NOT LONG AGO I was driving from Ashland to Pennsylvania to fill an engagement to speak. It was a rainy day and the traffic was heavy. I didn't have much time to spare, so I was a bit uneasy as I followed along behind one big transport truck after another, unable to free myself from the burden of traffic and drive with satisfaction to my destination. Muddy water constantly bombarded my windshield from the big wheels of the trucks, making my eyes strain to see through the slush, looking for an opportunity to pull out and pass the huge vehicles. Mile after mile slowly dragged by, my time wasting away and my nerves wearing thin from the strain. "If only I could work myself free from this traffic!" I thought.

And then I came to the newly constructed Ohio Turnpike. I pulled up to the interchange, picked up my ticket and relaxed as my car moved forward, rapidly approaching the speed limit. Traffic was still heavy, but it was all moving steadily and smoothly in the direction I wished to go. When I wished to pass a slower moving vehicle it was a simple matter of turning out into the other lane and going around. I WAS FREE! My burden was lifted!

BUT WAIT A MINUTE! Did I say free? The laws on this new turnpike were stricter than the laws of the state on the other highways. Let me disobey these laws and see what happens! What if I desired to leave the highway? There are heavily constructed fences on both sides of the highway. One cannot turn around and go the opposite direction without being arrested. This road had been constructed to enhance the traffic of the state, but the government realized that law enforcement would be required to keep the traffic moving freely and to keep the cars and passengers free from danger.

But I didn't want to leave the highway; I had no desire to break the speed limit, for it was adequate for my needs at the time. I felt that the policemen were my friends, hired to render many services for me in case I needed it, and to protect me from "crazy" drivers. Was this freedom? It certainly was—the best! I got to my destination on time, and without harm. The Turnpike saved me. The former generation had built highways for their needs, but this generation saw a greater need, and built super highways to meet the new demands. The new highways are patterned after the old ones, some of which were highly suggestive of the new Turnpikes. Knowledge of road-building was handed down to this generation, but was improved upon by the younger generation. This is as it should be.

THE HIGHWAY OF SCRIPTURE

There is a Highway which is mentioned in the Bible—CHRIST. He is the way to all accomplishments and holy destinations for all generations. "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain. (Isaiah 40:3, 4.)."

Whether we belong to the former, or the latter generation, let us make sure we are building according to the pattern of Him who is the "way, the truth and the life." To each succeeding generation He ought to appear as a bigger and more "super" Highway. He is the TURNPIKE TO HEAVEN!

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

LOVE SUFFERETH LONG AND IS KIND

I Corinthians 13

"Do you know the world is dying for a little bit of love?
Everywhere we hear the sighing for a little bit of love;
For the love that rights a wrong, fills the heart with hope and song;
They have waited, oh, so long, for a little bit of love."

IN OUR WORLD of hurry and bustle, unrest, and frustration, it seems to me, as Christians, we need to refer to the teachings of I Cor. 13 very often.

As the world tends toward speed and efficiency mechanically, we too, might become a bit mechanical in our living. Even in our consideration for those with whom we associate, and labor.

Let us consider a moment, the life of our Lord. He went about daily doing kind things for all he met. Things that proved His great love for each individual, and His concern for each one's trials and misunderstandings.

He says, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you." This commandment suggests a profound, vibrant love. He gave His life because of love.

He bought us with a great price and we are His. He therefore commands us to respect His supreme sacrifice, for His blood was shed for all. Therefore, he wants us to love all. He says, "Whatsoever ye do unto the least of these my brethren, ye do it unto me." When we misuse our fellowmen we are directly misusing our Lord.

Let's consider well what we say and do. Regardless of how capable we might be, or ever become, in Christian work, if we hurt those with whom we work, it would be better if we did nothing at all. For Jesus tells us, "Whoso shall offend one of these little ones, which believe in me, it were better that a millstone be hanged about his neck, and that he be drowned in the depths of the sea."

Paul also teaches, "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing." We are also exhorted that, in as much as it is possible within us, we are to live peaceably with all men.

Again Paul gives us instructions as to what to look for in a life of love. If we read I Cor. 13, we find to Love, is to be Patient, Kind, Generous, Humble, Courteous, Unselfish, Good-natured, Without Guile, With Sincerity. We can see at a glance, to incorporate all this in our lives, could not be easy, however, we are to "grow in grace, and unto perfection." Therefore we will need to practice and surely, to pray for God's help. Wouldn't it, however, be well worth our time and trouble?

The Bible also teaches us there are two kinds of sins. The sins of the body, and the sins of the disposition. The Prodigal son is a good example of the sins of the body, while the Elder Brother exemplifies the latter. Let us consider the ingredients of his life: Jealousy, Anger, Pride, Uncharity, Cruelty, Self-righteousness, Touchiness, Doggedness, Sullenness; from which we find no account of his forgiveness.

He did not have God in his heart, neither would he forgive. "If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive you your trespasses." It is better not to live, than not to possess that spirit of forgiveness, and love." He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

Our temperament can change, only as we permit the Spirit of Christ to penetrate our very souls. He says, "Let all your things be done with charity." Then let us now begin to incorporate more love into our daily living.

"I shall pass through this world but once.
Any good therefore that I can do,
Any kindness that I can show to any human being,
Let me not forget it, Let me not neglect it.
I shall not pass this way again."

Mrs. C. R. Kindley,
North Manchester, Ind.

Let us no longer be afraid to be dogmatic. To be dogmatic is not to be dictatorial. To be dogmatic is simply to be confident concerning that which we know to be the truth. Where anyone has mastered the facts of any branch of knowledge we expect him to be dogmatic, except in religion! If ever I am to go under the surgeon's knife, I shall want to find a man who knows most about the type of surgery which is involved, and who is completely devoid of any misgiving or hesitation in handling the lethal instruments. I shall want my surgeon to be dogmatic to the last degree. And if I am given one of those spinal shots which leave one wide awake to see the ghostly company surrounding the operating table, I hope I shall be spared any round-table discussion about the procedure. When life is at stake, we want thoroughly informed and confident counsel. Yet, when the very life of the soul itself is at stake, with what strange perversity do we Protestants decry the note of certitude! In no other realm of knowledge do we exalt the man who says, "Of course, I would not be dogmatic about it." It is only in the field of religion that we have come to exalt the mood of tolerance above all other intellectual virtues. We American Protestants are the victims today of a passion for religious tolerance which allows no conviction to stand in the way of its determination to sweep everybody into one cheerful company, whose sole loyalty is to one conviction alone — tolerance of everything! Lacking a first-hand experience of Christ and His saving grace, multitudes of our church people are finding a spurious religious glow in movements which promise to bring in the millennium by uniting all religious-minded people into one group by means of some magic formula which places fellowship above conviction.—Walter Barlow in GOD SO LOVED (Revell).

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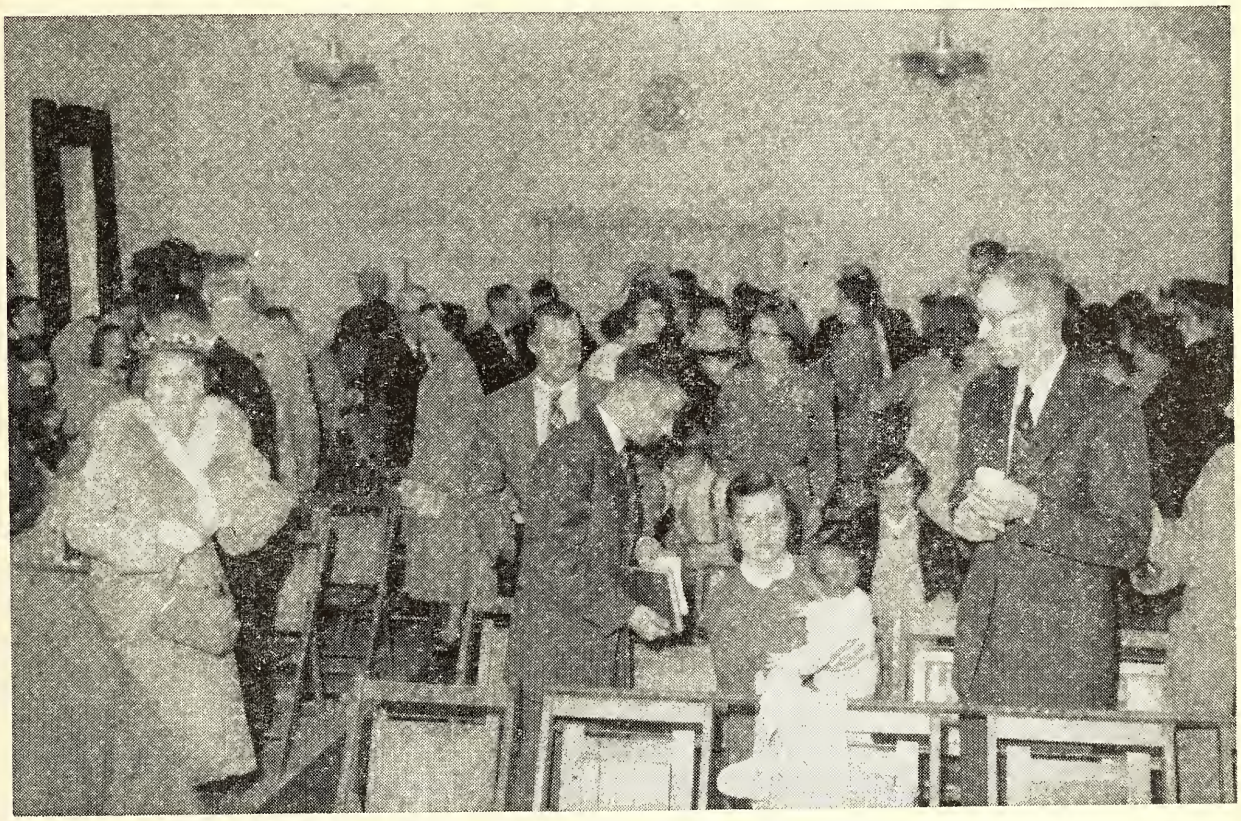
Ashland, Ohio

Dedicates remodelled Church



Picture taken shortly after the dedication service

Story begins on Page Eight

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND. The Hagerstown Brethren are planning on conducting a financial campaign this fall for the purpose of raising funds to erect an educational building.

The annual dinner, given for the church workers, was held recently.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. The Father and Son banquet was held on May 26th. Roger Mowery, principal of the Quincy Schools, was the scheduled speaker. One hundred and four men and boys were present. A boys' orchestra of 9 pieces furnished special music for the evening.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. The Sisterhood public program was presented the evening of May 27th.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Brother Elmer Keck notes that new carpet has been put down in the church, a gift from the Laymen and W. M. S.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Dr. J. Garber Drushal is the scheduled speaker for the Laymen's Public program on June 24th.

CANTON, OHIO, TRINITY BRETHREN. Cash Day was held on June 3rd.

"Visitation Day" is scheduled for June 19th.

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Brother William Fells informs the Editor that they have just completed a Mission Study held in three Sunday evening services.

May 20th, Bob and Bea Bischof told of Missions in Africa; May 27th, Brother Clayton Berkshire told of Missions in Argentina; and on June 3rd, John Rowsey told of, and showed slides on our Home Mission work.

Brother Fells says that this mission was well received.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. Ashland Seminary student, Richard Allison, of Milledgeville, Illinois, was guest speaker in the Williamstown church on May 27th.

FAIR HAVEN, OHIO. Jerry Flora, a middler in Ashland Theological Seminary, has accepted the call to follow Phil Lersch as pastor of the Fair Haven Brethren Church. He will begin his pastoral duties July 1, 1956.

Brother Phil Lersch notes: "The W. M. S. held their Spring picnic and meeting at the Tinkey home near Danville, Ohio on June 7 with fifteen members present.

"The Bischofs were with us to conduct the worship service on June 10 and tell of their mission work in Africa."

WARSAW, INDIANA. The new choir robes made their first appearance in services on June 3rd.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. Brother W. E. Thomas was the High School Baccalaureate speaker in services held in the school the afternoon of May 27th.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Brother Spencer Gentle has been a patient in Goshen Hospital suffering with a slipped disk of his spine, requiring him to be under traction. Let us remember our brother in our prayers.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Special speaker the evening of May 27th was Captain Frank Johnson, of the Salvation Army.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates notes an attendance of 44 at a recent Mid-Week service.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. The W. M. S. public service was held the evening of May 27th, with Mrs. Anne Black as the speaker.

A prayer and fasting service was held on a recent Thursday from 11:00 to 2:00. Brother E. J. Black notes in his bulletin that due to the unanimous request of those who attended, it was decided to continue this service weekly until further notice.

Brother Black conducted devotional services over WLBC the week of May 28th, conducting also the June 3rd Sunday service from 12:30 to 1:00.

We note that the painters have finished redecorating the main auditorium of the Muncie church.

The Boys' Brotherhood public service was held on May 20th.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. Baptismal services for six new members were held on May 23rd.

For the Summer Sunday evening Union services, held each Sunday on the Y. W. C. A. Patio, Brother Vernon Grisso is the scheduled speaker for the August 5th service. The Brethren Church will also furnish ushers and choir for the same service.

Tucson continues to grow, as comparative average attendance figures for May 1955 and 1956 show Sunday School, 118, 137; and Worship, 96, 130, respectively.

The Editor's Pulpit

God Is Our Refuge And Strength

IT IS SAID of Martin Luther that, "When dangers thickened around him he would turn to his companion, Melanchthon, and say: 'Come, Philip, let us sing the 46th Psalm.' " The version they would sing would be that of Luther's own great hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is our God."

Based on the 46th Psalm, this masterpiece of Protestant hymnology, became literally the theme song of the Reformation. So much so that it is said that "While Luther was still living, his enemies in the Roman Catholic Church declared that the whole German people were singing themselves into Luther's doctrines, and that his his hymns 'destroyed more souls than all his writings and sermons.' "

Of course, we know that these "souls" were not "destroyed" but were able through the message of this hymn to find the full assurance of salvation through the gospel of the grace of our Lord rather than the edicts, superstitious practices and secrecy surrounding much of the religious church of that day.

We are grateful today for the open Bible and its easily understood message of the Gospel. Few passages are greater in depth, power and assurance than this 46th Psalm. Written as an exhortation to behold God's power, it likewise expresses the confidence which God's people have in Him.

We suggest that you read it in its entirety. It won't take long. It will take you some time to digest its marvelous spiritual truths; while you are doing this, though, it will become strength for your journey and power for the tasks you are called upon to do.

It was not always as easy to proclaim the name of Christ as it is today. Open persecution used to be the rule rather than the exception, and many faithful followers of Christ found themselves in "prisons dark." Yet in spite of "dungeon, fire and sword," they remained true "'til death."

It is said of a group of Christians of the Luther era that when (in 1720) a remarkable revival, began in a town of Moravia, it was opposed by the Jesuits, and meetings were prohibited. Secret meetings, however, were continued and attendants were siezed and imprisoned in stables and cellars. On one occasion when the police broke up a meeting of about 150 persons, the congregation, undismayed, struck up the stanza of Luther's hymn:

"And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us."

As a result, we are told that "Twenty heads of families were for this sent to jail."

Seemingly so far removed from such open persecution for one's faith in Christ, we tend to forget what it cost believers of earlier times to live for their own faith. But has it occurred to us that persecution is still much in evidence today? Perhaps not so much in a physical sense in this God blessed land of ours, but other sections of the world are experiencing severe persecutions, much of which we never hear anything about. The true Christian, even in America, will find his faith persecuted in other ways than physical.

A study of this great Psalm and of this great protestant hymn will certainly reward the seeker with power for present day experiences and for any eventuality in the testing of our faith. WSB.

(Quotes from Sankey's "Story of the Gospel Hymns.")

The Fulness of God

ALL PARTS OF THE BIBLE are rich, but some passages are wonderful. Among these is found the prayer which Paul utters in his letter to the Ephesians.

"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."

It is in this great prayer that Paul asks that these Ephesians may be "filled with all the fulness of God."

In another place (Colossians 1:19) it is written, "It pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell." And John says (John 1:16), "And of his fulness have we received, and grace for grace."

Such messages stagger us. They are too large for our faith, and too high for our imagination. And it is not strange that the Word of God should be too high for us, for we are told that He is able "to do abundantly above all that we ask or think."

We can only skim over the surface of such prayers and promises. There are depths in the Word of God which we cannot fathom. There are heights in the grace of God which we cannot measure. These wonderful treasures of grace should cause us to open our hearts wide to receive the mercy and love of God. Why should we be content with so meager a supply when the store is so rich and full? Why should we go empty when we are invited to take freely of the riches of His grace?

We understand what fulness means when applied to material things. We have seen a vessel full of water; a house full of people; a room full of light. We have a faint idea of what it means when applied to the mind of man. One may be full of care; full of wrath; full of fear; full of comfort. But what can it be to be "filled with all the fulness of God?" What does the apostle mean when he says, "Be filled with the Spirit?"

It certainly means that we should give God the largest room. Why should men give so much of their thought to business and so little to God? Why should we give many hours each day to pleasure and be content to give five minutes to the Lord of all? To Him many give only one little, late, weary hour, a few stupid minutes of sleepy thoughts, when the world has had the whole day and all the strength that could be spared. It is written that when Jesus came into the world, He was born in a stable, "for there was no room in the inn." The inn was full of travelers who appeared to be of more importance. They had more money to spend. They had the best accommodations the place could afford, but Jesus had scant room in the world—a world which He had made. So He went through the world, having not where to lay His head.

Today we find that He still has scant room. Even in the hearts of those who are called His disciples He has only a narrow corner. Let Him be in all our work, in all our thoughts, in all our hours of study and meditation. Let Him have our warmest affection and our freshest hours. If we do, He will be present to help us in our business transactions; He will lighten our burdens and sweeten our cares. He will keep us from stumbling and lift us up when we fall. If we will but permit Him full entrance, then our thoughts, our affections—yes, our whole being, our whole life, shall be filled with God.

Filled with the "fulness of God" there will be no room for anything that is not in harmony with God. No thought, no passion, no conversation, no reading, no song that is out of harmony with His Spirit, shall have any place. If He is given His way He will cast out everything that is not right. He will make a clean sweep of all things that would mar our lives. Our enemies are mighty, but He is mightier.

How it would help the preacher in the pulpit if he were "filled with all the fulness of God." But when a minister enters his pulpit filled so full of self, so full of just science, so full of nothing but literature and literary effort, that there is no room in his little mind and heart for the great God, what a poor sermon he must preach. He is not conscious of God. He does not realize His presence; he does not feel the breath of His Spirit. God pity us when there is much "learning," but no God in the mind of the man who stands in the pulpit to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ.

Let nothing be said against "learning" and culture, for the Lord can also use these and He is calling for more and more each day. But they are empty things without God. It is never necessary to dispense with "learning in order to make room for Him. A room that is filled with pure air may be filled with light also. It is not necessary to drive out the air that light may come in. They will not quarrel for they are in perfect harmony. So also a

mind which is filled with "learning may also be filled with God.

This fulness would help us to pray. Our prayers would not be empty forms if we were filled with the fulness of God. We should pray as did Elijah when he opened the windows of heaven with his petitions. We should pray as Paul and Silas did when an earthquake shock burst open the prison doors and loosed the bonds of all the prisoners and brought the prison keeper to his knees. We need remember that our God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think. Therefore we should ask largely. Then let your desires be enlarged and ask more largely still. Send up superlative petitions. The ability of our heavenly Father far exceeds your largest petitions—"exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think." Give wing to your imagination and let it rise higher and yet higher. Yes, let it rise till it has reached its utmost heights. But remember that when your soaring mind has reached its utmost limit you cannot take in all that God is able to do for you. That is, if you are "filled with the fulness of God."

If we are filled with this fulness of God the path of life will be illuminated. How difficult it is at times to know what our duty is. We are often perplexed and in grave doubt as to the course to pursue. We may ask our neighbors what they think; we may take it to our pastor and ask him if he can give us the solution to our problem; we may write to some man of great wisdom in whom we have confidence and lay our doubts before him. But all this time we have forgotten, or have never given thought to, the real source of light. But when we permit the "fulness of God" to take hold, then we shall know our duty and will have the courage and the strength to do it.

And what would become of our afflictions? Would they trouble us? Does the soul that is filled with the fulness of God ever suffer? He may be permitted to suffer even more than before. We need remember that Paul who surely was filled with the fulness of God never ceased to suffer from his "thorn in the flesh," but was kept by the assurance that "God's grace was sufficient for him," and he was able to speak of these "light afflictions" as of but a moment. God's grace is always sufficient for everything in our lives.

It is never impossible to do God's will because God never asks the impossible of us. If we are sure that anything is God's will for us, then we can be equally sure that the power to do it is assured to us. God never goes at anything blindly. We may not be able to see our way through, but we may be sure that God sees His way out and in seeing His way He is also seeing ours. He never leads us down a blind alley from which there is no escape; rather He is always attempting to lead us out onto highways. If we will walk by faith, doing all duties that are perfectly plain, we need have no fear of the outcome and we will realize all that is embodied in the "fulness of God."

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

LOYALTY OR POPULARITY

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven." Acts 16:23.

THE FOLLOWERS of the Master had, at that early day, passed through such experiences, and Paul later found that he was to be no exception. All through the years there has been a high price on loyalty. There is always some form of persecution especially for those who choose to go counter to the popular policy. The old adage, "When in Rome do as the Romans do" may have its usages, but it does not tend to produce loyal Christians, nor yet patriotic citizens.

The old song "A call for loyal soldiers, comes to one and all, Soldiers for the conflict, whether great or small," still trumpets the need for loyalty; loyalty to convictions, to duty, to faithfulness, to service. There is still need for the Pauline question, when stricken on the Damascus Road, and when he became aware that it was Jesus who had arrested his murderous intentions and career, "What wilt thou have me to do?" And no man dare ask that question and expect to succeed in life if he fails to accept Christ's commission.

The story is extant of two college girls who asked their teacher what to do about cheating in their examinations. Tactfully the teacher explained the meaning of such conduct, and advised against the practice, saying that such conduct would be unbecoming and that it has always been the way of the cross to accept the hardships and trials of the everyday life. "Oh, exclaimed the girls, "we do not want to go the way of the cross, we want to be popular!"

"And so the choice goes on forever between that darkness and that light,
God's new Messiah, offering each the bloom or the blight;
Parts the goats upon the left hand, and the sheep upon the right."

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

MORE B's IN THE MISSIONARY HOME

FOR SOME TIME—since last January to be exact—the Missionary Home in Ashland has been housing a set of B's—Bob Bischof and Bea Bischof. Now the place has assumed the character of a veritable hive of the busy creatures, with the arrival of Miss Barbara Jane Bischof—at least she will add the last name after six months, when she legally becomes a Bischof.

Little Miss Barbara, at the age of six weeks, has taken up residence with Daddy and Mother (Bob and Bea) Bischof. She has dark hair and eyes, weighs about twelve pounds, conducts herself in an admirably lady-like fashion, and is loved by all—particularly her new parents.

After the usual probationary period, Bob and Bea hope to have adoption completed and to call the little lass their own.

Yes, if anybody asks you, the Missionary Home is swarming with B's—perhaps they are Bumble, Queen and Honey—and we know the world will be sweeter because of them.

PHOENIX SURVEY AND CULTIVATION

THE GIGANTIC SOUTHWEST with its tremendous growth offers a great opportunity to the Brethren Church. Having a thriving church in Tucson, Arizona, provides a good reason and a practical means of reaching out to establish new churches in that general area.

In early February, Reverend Vernon Grisso and I spent a few days in Phoenix, Arizona, locating Brethren families whose names had been placed in our hands and making a general survey of the city. The survey was encouraging for several reasons which I will state briefly:

1. In the sixteen homes in which we visited, roughly eighty percent of the families were sympathetic to the establishment of a Brethren church in Phoenix;

2. The rapid growth and expansion in Phoenix warrants the establishment of several new churches;

3. Quite a few of the Brethren families are located in and near one of the best areas for a new church;

4. Many of the families are fairly young folks, involving several children and these along with some older folks make up a well-balanced age group to begin with.

The use of Tucson's pastor, Reverend Vernon Grisso, to do some cultivation work, was granted by the church and Brother Grisso has met with some of the people on two different occasions. On March 20, eleven of these Phoenix people met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weygand, formerly of Nappanee, Indiana. Reverend and Mrs. Grisso were also present.

On May 13, fifteen Phoenix people and twenty-seven from Tucson met at the Tempe City Park for a picnic and devotional service. Brother Grisso reports that this was a fine occasion and that new names of families living in the Phoenix area were presented by those attending.

Brethren, here is a splendid opportunity for us to reach out with the Gospel here at home and establish another church to the glory of God. What will happen here will depend upon our ability to join our hearts and hands in seeking God's guidance and direction in this project.—The General Secretary.

YOUR METHOD OF MISSIONARY GIVING

WHAT IS YOUR METHOD of giving for the missionary cause? Is it obsolete or up to date.? Does it bring personal satisfaction or leave much to be desired? How long has it been since you gave any serious thought to your way of making contributions to enable the missionary work of your church to increase its outreach?

Perhaps you have been following unconsciously the habit of giving twice each year—at Easter and Thanksgiving. Perhaps you have given ten dollars at each of these times for the last ten years and have listed this as your missionary effort. ($20.00 per year). Especially for an average wage earner, this isn't much, is it? On the other hand, an average wage earner may not find it easy to do much better on these two occasions if he has not planned his giving for the months ahead. However, by careful planning he might have been able to lay aside two dollars a week for missions ($104.00 per year), using the popular installment plan.

Everybody knows about this plan which is used so widely today to purchase all manner of articles. It is

successful in the secular realm and can be just as successful in the Lord's work. In reality you have here an application of the principle laid down by the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 16:2, "Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store."

This weekly plan of giving to missions can work even more conveniently for the individual, if the local church has a well-planned financial program with a budget that includes benevolences (denominational interests) as well as current expenses; for you not only lay it aside, but you actually give it. There is much satisfaction derived from this method of giving, because there is ever present the sense of participating in missions and the realization that you are giving more.

Review your method of missionary giving. DO IT NOW!

NOTICE

The Brethren Church of Mansfield, Ohio, desires to contact anyone interested in the pastorate of this church. Write to:

Mrs. Herbert Longshore, Church Secretary,
546 W. 4th St.,
Mansfield, Ohio.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE
June 19th to 21st
Oak Hill, West Virginia

NOTICE TO THE CHURCHES

THE COMING GENERAL CONFERENCE of Brethren Churches to be held on the Ashland College campus, August 13-19, is an event of great anticipation. It will be our fifth assembly as a Conference in the Memorial Chapel, which is equipped with the Kettering Memorial organ and suitable appointments. In addition to the completed new Founders' Hall, and the popular Student Union Building, there will be the Edwin E. Jacobs dormitory completed for housing and feeding the delegates.

This is also the last year prior to the 75th anniversary (1957) of the distinctive history of The Brethren Church in the Tunker movement, and this is to be followed by the 250th anniversary of the Tunker movement from its European origin, which would be the conference year of 1958.

Every church will want its full quota of delegates and a sizeable representation of membership beyond its quota of delegates on the conference grounds this year. The lay and ministerial credentials will be mailed from the office of the conference secretary on June 15. This mailing is addressed mainly to the pastors, but in some case to the clerks of congregations. If this mailing fails to reach any congregation, kindly notify the secretary prior to August 1st.

All members of local churches would find it profitable to enjoy the various sessions of conference and its wonderful spirit first hand. We urge each church to have a fine representation of its young people at the Brethren Youth and General Conferences.

Please bring or send from your church a conference offering in addition to the delegate fees of one dollar each for your entire quota of delegates as passed by our last conference. Means are needed to meet committee and publication expenses imposed by the conference. The conference treasurer is Joseph E. Stookey, 242 West Liberty Street, Ashland, Ohio.

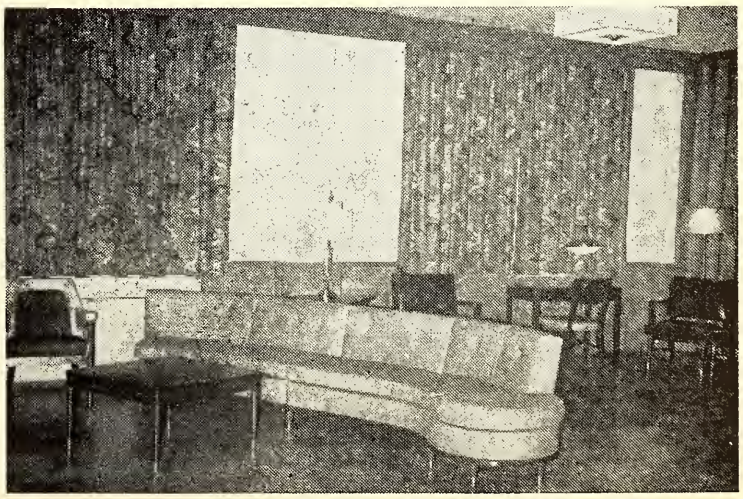
As we come to conference, may we come prayerfully to the help of our God, and may His Spirit be upon us!

Fraternally yours,

C. Y. Gilmer, Conference Secretary
708 West Yosemite Avenue,
Manteca, California.

A SCENE FROM THE LOUNGE
OF THE NEW
JACOB'S HALL MEN'S DORMITORY
Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio

(Cut courtesy Ashland College Alumni Association)



DEDICATION SERVICES FOR GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN CHURCH

Ashland, Ohio

held March 25, 1956

ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1955, someone who attended the services at the Garber Memorial Brethren Church, 163 Sherman Ave., Ashland, Ohio, asked when we were intending to build, and suggested that we start our Building Fund. With the help of the heirs of the Founder of the Church, when the services of the day were closed there was a thousand dollars ($1,000.00) in that Building Fund.

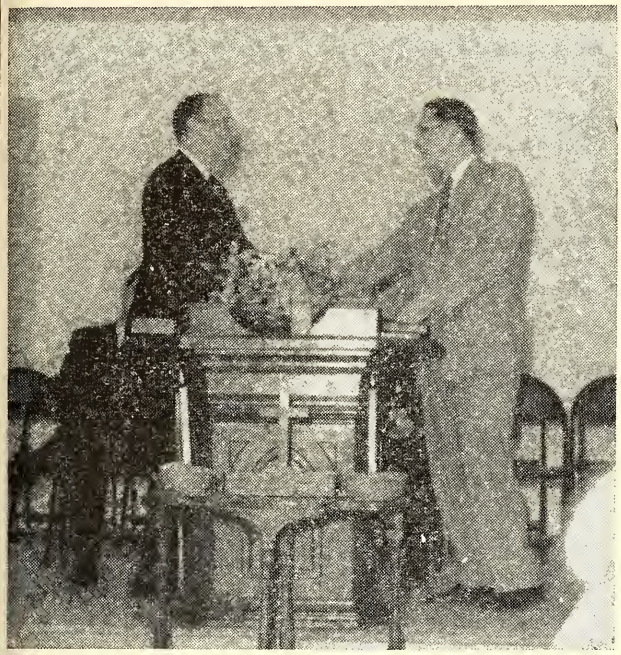
Just fifty-two days from that day, the four walls were fitly joined together, (Nehemiah 6:15), and the roof was on. In that time we did not miss a service. The contractor was very cooperative and on Friday or Saturday, when the men finished their work for the week, the Sanctuary was left so the Worship Services could be held.

There was a great deal of work being done by the laymen, in addition to what the contractor's crew was doing. The Brethren Youth Crusaders had donated an amplifier, speaker, and three-speed, hi-fi record player (A public Address System). This was installed. The entire church was rewired, with a new entrance box, new lead-in cable, all new lighting fixtures and new outlets all over the church. The stage is wired and lighted for plays or whatever we would care to present on our platform.

REV. W. E. RONK
BRINGING THE DEDICATION MESSAGE
Left to right: H. William Fells, W. E. Ronk, Elton Whitted

REV. H. WILLIAM FELLS

The work of the contractor gave us a whole new worship center, the rostrum is now sixteen and one-half feet wide and ten feet deep, with a stairway to the basement on the left side and a closet on the right. At the rear of the rostrum we have two doorways into the two Sunday School Class Rooms, which are nine by twelve feet, with a Modern-fold Spacemaster door between so we can have a meeting room nine by twenty-four feet. These four doors are flush, Birch, half-core doors. The trim is tear-drop. The lights of the rostrum are recessed into the ceiling with four spot lights hidden in the twelve inch drop forming the arch at the front of the rostrum. We also have a Class room ten by fourteen feet over the two class rooms at the rear of the church. The stairway to these is outside, but the High school Boys' Class have enjoyed "The Upper Room." When the stairway to the



PASTOR H. WILLIAM FELLS (left) Receives keys from ELTON WHITTED, Chairman Board of Trustees

basement was relocated we gained considerable room in the basement. This room is fifteen by thirteen feet, with the furnace room and two restrooms comprising the remainder of our basement. Our Sanctuary is now approximately twenty-four by thirty-five feet. We feel we have room for a Sunday School of one-hundred and twenty-five and this is our goal.

After the contractor had finished his work, one of the young men of the church said to the pastor as he left the Worship Service, "I would like to furnish the paint to refinish the sanctuary, and the addition, and I will help apply it also." And this has been accomplished. Some eleven laymen and laywomen were involved in the redecorating program. (We urge you to come and see our plant at your earliest opportunity.)

Two new hatracks were donated by Mr. and Mrs. John Yauger. New drapes have been donated for the worship center. The drapes at the windows were all lined and many other items have been taken care of. We are not done, our work has just begun. But we felt all of this should be dedicated to the work of the Lord.

Palm Sunday, March 25, 1956, was set for this day of Dedication. Rev. Willis Ronk, President of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, agreed to be our speaker. Rev. Clayton Berkshire was present for the Prayer of Dedication. Mr. Elton Whitted, Chairman of the Board of Trustees presented the key to the pastor for the Sunday School Class Rooms. At 2:30, Palm Sunday Afternoon some eighty-seven people gathered at the church for the service.

The total cost of this addition and other items to the date of the Dedication Service was Forty-three Hundred and Sixty-five Dollars ($4,365.00). Of this, all had been paid, either by donated labor or cash, except Seventeen Hundred and Eighty-one Dollars, and this was all arranged for by loans and pledges. (Since March 24, the roof has been shingled including all the old and new at a cost of Two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00).

The Program included:

Prelude

Gloria Patri

Invocation

Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation"

Scripture Lesson: "I Kings 8:27-43."

Vocal Solo: "Bless This House" .....Gerald Wissinger

Message: "Surely The Lord Is In This Place" (Genesis 28:10-22) .....Rev. Willis E. Ronk

The Offering

Pastor's Statement

Presentation of the Key .....Elton Whitted

Prayer of Dedication .....Rev. Clayton Berkshire

The Litany Response ...Rev. Ronk and Congregation

Statement of Dedication .....Pastor, and by those attending regular service of this Church

Hymn: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

Benediction

LEADING THE DEDICATION LITANY
Left to right: W. Clayton Berkshire, H. William Fells, W. E. Ronk, Elton Whitted

A Special Request from the CO-ORDINATING FINANCE COMMITTEE

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE Co-ordinating Finance Committee would like to know how many churches are giving the minimum standard of $12.00 per member per year for the denominational work (benevolences)—Missions, College and Seminary, Publications, Benevolent Board, Sunday School Association and Brethren Youth.

Some churches may not have complete figures for the current fiscal year, but by taking the last twelve month period in which all the denominational offerings were received, an estimate can be made. This should be as accurate as possible.

If your church has reached this standard, will you please report to W. Clayton Berkshire, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio, stating this fact and giving the amount contributed per member. (To get this per-member average, simply divide the church's total contribution to the above-named denominational work by the church's book membership.)

SUMMER CAMP DATES

MONTH OF JULY

Camp Pinnacles (Southeast):

(Wardensville, W. Va.)

July 1-7

Camp Blackhawk (Central):

(Muscatine, Iowa)

July 2-8

Camp Shipshewana (Indiana):

(Brethren Retreat, Shipshewana Lake, Ind.)

Juniors . . . . . July 1-6
Southern Ind. Juniors . . . . . July 1-7
Northern Ind. Intermediates July 8-14
Northern Ind. Juniors . . . . July 15-21

Camp Wyandotte (Mid-West):

(Piper, Kansas)

July 30-August 5

Laid to Rest

NICKEY. Mrs. Harry E. Nickey, 55, daughter of the late J. W. and Ida McDonald, was born Aug. 22, 1900 and died at her home near Casner, Ill., May 4, 1956. Married to Harry E. Nickey, Mar. 6, 1929. Survived by husband, one son, one grandson, her mother and 3 brothers. Active member of the Cerro Gordo Brethren Church, and W. M. S. Services held in the church, by Rev. H. C. Albright, assisted by Rev. W. T. Heckman, and her pastor, Rev. Kenneth Mock. Burial Cerro Gordo cemetery.

Kenneth Mock.

A READING Church is an INFORMED Church. Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

An Important Message to Pastors And Church Members:

The Minister's Place in the Church Organization

A MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL is many different things. In his life he is an example. In the pulpit he s a preacher. In his personal relationships he is a pastor. n the classroom he is a teacher. In connection with the rganizational structure of the congregation he is the eneral administrator. It is up to him to see that the rganization functions smoothly and efficiently, that it perates in a balanced manner, that the program it produces and sustains is as effective as possible in satisfyng the spiritual needs of the entire church constituency.

There are ministers who feel themselves above maters of church organization. They frankly say they do not ave time for such matters, that the organization of the hurch should be handled by lay people, leaving the inister free to be prophet and preacher. How mistaken uch ministers are! Of course a minister must be more han a tinkerer with machinery, but at the same time he an only extend what he can get done with his own time nd talents and energy as effective lines of organization each out from him to the entire membership of his congregation.

On the other hand there are ministers who aspire to e little dictators and view the organizational structure of he church as a means of bringing the church membership into subjection. Such ministers propose to supply all f the ideas and plans for the congregation, insist on ersonally selecting those who are to fill the various ffices, and in other ways seek to dominate the situation. These ministers, too, are mistaken. A church cannot be "one man show." A minister as the chief administrator f a congregation is not a dictator but a leader. Far nore important than the question of what he can get one through an organization is the question of what, hrough an organization, he can get others to accomplish n the interest of the Kingdom.

DUTIES OF THE MINISTER

THE MINISTER SHOULD BE A CHIEF ENGINEER. It is his duty to "keep the machine oiled" and in repair. He should be constantly on the lookout for weak spots in the organization. He should anticipate trouble and seek to prevent it. It should be remembered that the minister is the one man in most congregations who is supposed to be professionally trained and experienced in administering a church program. To the extent that he has such skill and experience the congregation should look to him for leadership.

THE MINISTER SHOULD HAVE A VOICE IN THE SELECTION OF STAFF PERSONNEL. As already intimated, a minister should not expect to be accorded the privilege of naming the various individuals who will fill the positions of leadership in the church, but he does have a right to expect to be consulted in connection with the selection of such leadership. If he has served the congregation for any length of time he probably knows more people in the church in a more intimate fashion than does any other individual. He also knows the people who will work best with him and with whom he can work best. While in the end the personal desires of a minister regarding personnel should not be absolutely determinative, his feeling in the matter should be taken carefully into account.

THE MINISTER SHOULD BE A DREAMER. Not all of the ideas that are ultimately incorporated in the program of a church need originate with the minister, but it should be remembered that he is the one man who gives his entire time to the affairs of the congregation and who has had specialized training in church leadership. The alert minister will dream far ahead of his congregation in relation to all aspects of the church's program. He will be constantly on the lookout for new things to do, new needs to be met, new avenues of service to be traveled. When an idea finally emerges in the form of definite program no one may be really aware of the source of that idea but the minister will still have the satisfaction of seeing one of his dreams on the way toward realization. "Where there is no vision the people perish!"

THE MINISTER SHOULD BE A SUPERVISOR. Most of the work done in a church is carried forward by relatively untrained volunteer workers. If they are to get their jobs done well they need counsel and help. These the minister should supply. No conscientious worker should ever be left to struggle alone. He is entitled to the assurance that his minister is aiding and supporting him in the thing he is trying to accomplish.

THE MINISTER SHOULD BE AN EFFICIENCY EXPERT. The minister should always keep in the forefront of his conscience the question, "How can we do better, and with the expenditure of less energy, the things we are seeking to accomplish?" He should never be quite satisfied to let well enough alone. He should be constantly searching for better ways of doing present things and for new ways by which unmet needs may be met. Traditional methods should have little weight with him except as he is satisfied in his mind that familiar means are actually the best means that can be employed.

Selected from "A Functional Church Organization."

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

O HAPPY HOUSE

O happy house! where Thou art loved the best,
Dear Friend and Savior of our race;
Where never comes such welcome, honored Guest,
Where none can ever fill Thy place;
Where every heart goes forth to meet Thee,
Where every ear attends Thy Word,
Where every lip with blessing greets Thee,
Where all are waiting on their Lord.

O happy house; and happy servitude!
Where all alike one Master own;
Where daily duty, in Thy strength pursued,
Is never hard nor toilsome known;
Where each one serves Thee, meek and lowly,
Whatever Thine appointment be,
Till common tasks seem great and holy,
When they are done as unto Thee.

O happy house! where Thou art not forgot
When Joy is flowing full and free;
O happy house! where every wound is brought—
Physician, Comforter—to Thee.
Until at last, earth's day's work ended,
All meet Thee in that home above,
From whence Thou camest, where Thou hast ascended,
Thy Heaven of glory and of love!

—C. J. Ph. Spitta.

THE FIRST HOME was made "in Eden (Gen. 2:8). To make this home someone beside man was needed. (Gen. 2:18). God wished to bless man with the joys of wife and children (Psalm 128:2, 3). Christ wants the home of today built upon a firm foundation (Matt. 7:24-27). He wants the children reared in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4; Deut. 6:6, 7; Prov. 3:12). He wants family worship in which all the members of the home engage (1 Thess. 5:17; James 5:16; Luke 18:1). He wants Grace said before every meal (Matt. 15:36). He wants mutual love between all the members of the family (Eph. 5:25; Col. 3:19; Titus 2:4), and for this He wants all to study the spectrum of love in 1 Cor. 13:4-6). When any of the home are afflicted He wants His help for them to be sought (Luke 7:11-15; Mark 7:25-30; James 5:13-15). He wants each and all to listen to the voice of God for guidance (1 Sam. 3:1-10).

God wants the family united in creating a beautiful home atmosphere. He believes in attractive physical surroundings (Gen. 2:8). He is pleased with cultural advantages such as proper books, magazines, pictures and music (1 Sam. 16:23). He desires a wholesome conversation in the home (Phil. 1:27; 3:20; 1 Tim. 4:12). He would have harmony between all members of the family (Eph. 4:31, 32). To do this there must be impartiality shown (Gen. 37:1-4). All are to have the spirit of hospitalit (Rom. 12:13; 1 Peter 4:9). The father and mother a to have the proper regard for each other (Eph. 5:22-3 Col. 3:19; 1 Peter 3:1, 7). And the children are to sho a beautiful attitude toward their parents (Prov. 23:2 26; Eph. 6:1; Prov. 31:28). The SECRET of a happ home is love (Prov. 15:7).

Examples of worthy homes in the Scriptures are th Nazareth home (Matt. 1, 2; Luke 1, 2); the Bethan home (Luke 10:38-42); the home of Timothy (2 Tin 1:5); the home of Onesiphorus (2 Tim. 1:16-18; 4:19 the home of a virtuous woman (Prov. 31:28-31).

Jesus played His part in the home as a dependab and loving Son (John 19:26, 27), as obedient both to Go and his parents (Luke 2:51; 2:48, 49), in resisting tem tation (Matt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12, 13), as consecrated t His Father's service (John 4:34; 9:4; Luke 22:41, 42).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for June 24, 1956

THE CONTINUING MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Lesson: Acts 28:16, 23-31

WHILE IN CORINTH on his Third Missionary Jou ney, Paul wrote to the Church at Rome and sai "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarian both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as i me is, I am ready to preach the Gospel to you that a at Rome also" (1:14-15).

Paul's desire was fulfilled a few years later. H reached Rome—but not as he had anticipated. He we bound in chains as a prisoner of the Roman Governmen

This would have stopped the work of a lesser ma than the Apostle Paul, but he knew his work was n finished. He had that sense of **urgency** and **necessity** th kept him stedfast in his object of winning men and won en to the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Now in Rome he was a prisoner kept under consta surveillance. A certain liberty was granted him, howeve in that he was permitted to dwell in his own house, a though guarded by a Roman soldier. For two years h remained there, continually welcoming all who came inquire of the things of the Lord. When they came h preached continually (present tense, and thus denotin continuous action) "the kingdom of God . . . teachin those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, wi all confidence, no man forbidding him" (Acts 28:31).

Until the Church of Jesus Christ, and her members particular, catch this same spirit of **urgency** and **necessity** with regards to the Gospel, nothing effectively wi be accomplished for the Kingdom of God. We must firm ly believe that the hands of time point to a few minut before twelve, and that much work remains to be don We must reach the decision that the world can only

evangelized by the Church of Jesus Christ; that she is the only agency which God is using to carry the good news of Jesus Christ.

This is what Christ meant when He said that the fields were "white already to harvest" (John 4:35). Our Lord in another place said: "I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4).

Though imprisoned, the work of the Apostle Paul was effective in producing spiritual fruit. He was not idle during those two years, but preached to all who came to him. In addition to this, he was busily engaged in writing four of the New Testament Epistles: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

Thus, through the years, countless souls have been added to the Lord as a result of Paul's Prison Epistles. Even as it was said of Abel, so can it be said of Paul, that, "he being dead yet speaketh" (Heb. 11:4).

The **Mission of the Church** will never be completed until the last soul and the last tribe have been reached with the Gospel. For "this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

What's Doing in the Churches

A FAREWELL TO THE MADOSKIS

On Sunday evening, May 27, the Manteca, California, Brethren Church gave a farewell to Rev. and Mrs. Robert Madoski and son, Larry, aged two, upon their departure for Peru, Indiana, where Brother Madoski assumed the pastorate of the First Brethren Church on June 3. Brother Madoski was reared in the Manteca Church, graduated by the local high school, and spent two years at Ashland. He was ordained to the eldership in 1950. He was pastor of the Lathrop Brethren Church for three years, 1951-1954. Mrs. Madoski is the former Bernadine Miller of Stockton. She attended Bible Standard Institute, Eugene, Oregon.

Brother Madoski was our pulpit guest for the evening service, and he gave a forceful message on "Consecration." The Young People's Choir sang two special selections. A social hour, sponsored by the social committee of the church, was held in the social room of the church. The Manteca Church gave a set of luggage for the family, and a beautiful blanket useful for a colder climate. Quite a number came from the Lathrop Church for the event. Refreshments were served to over one hundred people. As a token of the high regard of the community for Brother Madoski, the Manteca Ambulance Service presented him a beautiful Bible. All wish them Godspeed and every spiritual success in their new field of endeavor.

—C. Y. Gilmer.

"OPINION"

H. A. Gossard

If all the people were as anxious and determined to do the things they should do, with the same determination manifested in doing the things they should not do, this world would become a haven of peace and happiness almost instantly.

It is not always wise to ask counsel of persons who are conceited enough to claim they are efficient for any request. Personally, I would hope for the more profound advice from those who would require sufficient time of the interrogater to thoroughly ponder the question.

A man once asked his neighbor, "Why do you talk so much to yourself?" He replied, "I have three good reasons for it; First, I like to talk to an intelligent man . . . Second, I like to hear an intelligent man talk . . . Third, I can lie or swear without looking myself in the face."

I think he is mainly on the wrong path; for sometime he will have to meet Conscience when he turns around to come back in the same path.

TRUE FREEDOM, MAN'S GLORY

The TORCH is dimmed that was once brightly lighted;
And nations groping blindly for the Light
Upon a darkened path, soul-sick, affrighted,
Are herded back into the AGES' NIGHT . . .

There, in that NIGHT, desire for well-earned sleeping
Is turned to pain, and, rest denied the slave,
The clanking chains, kept wet by human weeping,
Sound out Defeat! and Slave, cease not to rave!

Can FREEDOM lost be won through servile labor
By those whose spirit faints far from the goal?
Can Hope, made mad, grab up the bloody saber
In just defense of body and of soul?

Were FREEDOM'S Chief an unrestricted Tyrant,
Were Humans born pulsating without brain,—
A mass of flesh and blood, and nonaspirant,
That Tyrant then might shackle Her for gain!

But since upon the Mountain of Creation
She scaled the summit's peak and set Her throne,
No Power, though boasting much of ostentation,
Shall vaunt of Glory equal to Her own!

FREEDOM denied, its calmness slowly creeping,
In death still lingers like a bosom friend . . .
When death for FREEDOM ends, the body sleeping,
The Soul goes on unto its destined end . . .

When "Brainy Men" drunk-mad with selfish glory
Act more like Imps untrained to grace a throne,
Destruction, quite complete, and quite as gory,
Will end the triumph of each heart of stone!

Sometime the nations now in great dejection,
Will fan the spark of FREEDOM to a Flame;
And cast at DESPOTS this deserved reflection:
"YOUR GLORY DEAD, IS BURIED WITH YOUR FAME!"

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS PROGRAM PLANS

Clarence Stogsdill, Director

SO LONG! BEEN GOOD T' KNOW YA

WITH THIS ARTICLE I complete my work with Brethren Youth on the national scale. In some ways I am anxious to re-enter the pastorate, and in some ways I am sad about leaving this phase of youth work. We have been going through a period of transition in the national youth work which has made it rather difficult in some ways: many people have felt that the work should be directed in this way, and many have felt that it should be going another. The usual difficulties arise under such circumstances. The public in general demands a "showing" which is not at all easy to produce, especially when we must tread rather softly in choosing a new path.

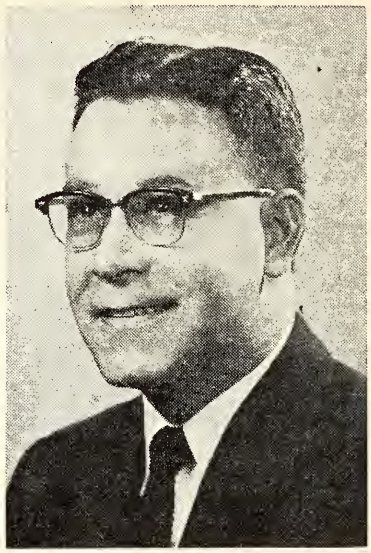
The original enthusiasm has waned somewhat, and a new type of enthusiasm needs to take its place. An organization cannot always expect to exist on enthusiasm and sensation alone. There must be a substantial teaching program undergirding the whole work which will bear it along through all types of periods. The people of the Brethren Church have shown that they are rather weary of giving to projects, no matter how worthy they might be. Last year we raised more than $6,500 to buy a jeep and a trailer for the Bischofs and their work in Nigeria, and by the time General Conference drew near people were saying, "Too much project, not enough Brethren Youth." This indicates that the emphasis of Brethren Youth is in a period of transition, and must be turned more toward self support and organization than toward missions, no matter how worthy they may be.

Many of us still have not come to understand that National Brethren Youth is one and the same as Local Brethren Youth. The national organization exists for, and because of, local youth and local workers. The national organization depends upon the gifts and support of the local churches for its very existence. And up to now the national has not been sufficiently supported by the local churches to enable it to make effective contributions to the local work. The local groups are feeling that fact more and more acutely, and they are beginning to make it known to the national organization. This is where, I believe, the national board will have to—and will—adjust itself to more direct fulfillment of the needs of the local organizations. There are needs for teaching in regard to boy-girl relationship; Brethren doctrine; how to plan socials and good youth programs of all types.

If you are inclined to criticize and complain, just consider this. I have looked over program materials from dozens of bigger organizations which are spending thousands and thousands of dollars annually, and among them I have found only two or three that seem to be worth considering as effective and livening youth programs. It seems that all denominations are having the same problems in regard to carrying on efficient youth programs. Part of the difficulty lies in the fact that youth themselves are thinking differently than their predecessors. They know more about business, organization have more development of talents, and are exposed t more temptations and greater problems than the forme generations. Sports and activities of the world play large part in their social lives, and the church tends t look rather dead where there is not a reasonable amou of activity to satisfy their pent-up emotions. Educatic is becoming more and more practical, training is becon ing more and more specialized, until it becomes increa ingly difficult for youth to understand their elders, ar visa versa. Even the youth become more group co scious, and tend to go only where they will be wit others of like mind and abilities—this is brought abo by clubs and organizations of the schools. It takes real brain to be able to make a universal appeal to tl youth, and even more to help older people understar the youth.

The time has come when mothers and fathers are r sponsible more than ever to prove their Christianity their children. The home is about the only place whe youth have a chance to see individual faith lived a proved. The tendency of modern parents is to "farm ou their children to baby-sitters, when the real need is let their children see Christ in them through companio ship and the family altar. We are trying to imitate tl school and the entertainment world in our youth pr gramming; we cannot expect to be as efficient as tl

COMPLETES WORK WITH NATIONAL BRETHREN YOUTH



REV. CLARENCE STOGSDILL, who for the past thre years, has served as National Brethren Youth Directo is closing his work, and will assume the pastorate of th Third Brethren Church, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, nex month.

Brother Stogsdill, his wife Doris, and children Gwe and Roger, will move from Ashland to Johnstown shortl after the first of the month, where he will deliver hi first sermon to his new congregation on July 8th. W wish the Stogsdills well in their new work. W. S. B.

world in the world's specialty—therefore our programs seem flat and insipid to our young people. We are going to have to place the emphasis where it belongs—genuine Christian discipleship! Our active programs of entertainment can go only so far, then they will begin to wither and die and the real substance will be proved.

Don't misunderstand me: I want an active program. But that program must be backed up by genuine Christian spirit and teaching. I suppose the greatest fault of our churches is that they have not supplied an interesting active program; they have not given enough entertainment. But even worse than that, they have not tried to understand youth and to supply Christian training and teaching which is needed above all else. Sportsmanship is taught in school; it should be used in the church. Music is taught in school; it should find expression in the church. Social mindedness is developed in school; it should be refined for use in Christian witnessing in the church.

We are sure that, with your support and prayers, and with the help of the national youth board, much will be accomplished under the leadership of Rev. Phil Lersch, to whom we now give the mantle of Brethren Youth. God bless you, Phil!

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

DAILY MEDITATIONS are vitally important—and should be practiced. How often we all agree to this statement; yet do nothing about them in our own family group. It is so much easier to say__there's just no time suitable—or we can't find any material definitely suited for our age group. And so we convince ourselves, and fail to have any meditations at all.

So it went in our household. We would have them for awhile—and then off on a spree we'd go, telling ourselves it just wouldn't work.

Now it's a different story. We have discovered a book, a time, and a wonderful family experience. First of all, our book: "Devotions For The Children's Hour" by Kenneth N. Taylor. It is really a study on Christian doctrines, written for use with beginners, primaries, juniors and intermediates. The book suggests, and we read, Scripture fitting each chapter—and have a song or two after our prayer.

You may ask, do the youngsters understand it all? Definitely not. However they are becoming accustomed to hearing words and phrases relative to Christian doctrine, character and living. As they associate the various lessons, they begin to reap an understanding and gradually grow in their spiritual life. After all, isn't that the way we learn to love and comprehend all the truths our Lord has revealed to us? Christ may be first a Figure on a page, then a Light against which all life is silhouetted, then a Face and a Presence. It doesn't happen in a day—a week—a year. It is a never-ending process of developing our spiritual life, hoping to become more like our Saviour day by day.

This is what we are trying to offer our children in family meditations. A gradual growing into Christianity. To supplement this doctrinal study, each one has a book of Bible stories that we read frequently.

"But to find time is our biggest problem" I have heard many mothers moan. Of course it's a problem; therefore a challenge. We tried several—and found the most satisfactory immediately after the evening meal. NOT after the table is cleared, or the dishes are done—for by then it's time to leave for a meeting of some sort, and the kiddies are too busy playing. It has now become a matter of habit to get up from the table and go to the living room as a group.

What is our family? Three year old Mark; four year old Rosanna; and eight year old Linda, a foster daughter who came to us a complete foreigner to a church.

What have we accomplished? The children now speak of God in daily conversation; they are better behaved and reverent in the House of God; and our family circle has become a tight and binding one, because we are all learning and worshipping together.

Naturally, that which has solved our problem will not solve all of yours because of the different family age groups. But "seek and ye shall find." Silence and a do-nothing attitude will not solve any situation. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

Mrs. Lyle Lichtenberger,
Berlin ,Penna.

» » » » Our Poet's Corner « « « «

WALKING TOGETHER

Mildred Wilkie

Where did you walk with God today;
In garden cool? In city street?
In sick rooms where the stricken lay,
Or in your home—some safe retreat?

On tossing sea, on herdsman's plain—
It matters not—God can walk there.
In city marts; through ripening grain;
He wants your daily round to share.

Lord Jesus, help me walk today
In step with Thee, with gentle tread,
Recalling why Thy feet were pierced,
And the Hill Thou climbed—in my stead.

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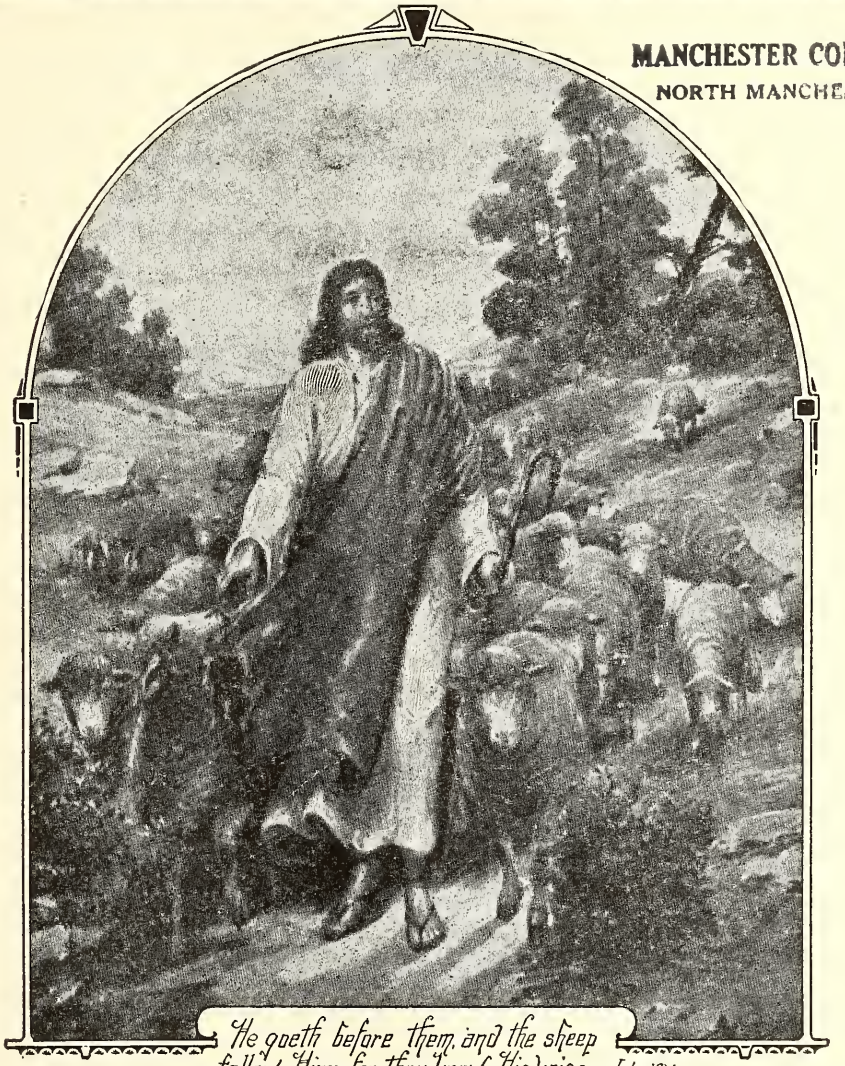

He goeth before them, and the sheep follow Him: for they know His voice. John 10:4

Ohio District Conference Program in this Issue

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Baptismal services were held on June 3rd, at the close of the morning worship service.

A group of Linwood Brethren, along with their Pastor, Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz, conducted Sunday afternoon services at the Old Folks' Home, Westminster, on June 3rd.

ADRIAN, PENNA. BRUSH VALLEY BRETHREN. From the Brush Valley bulletin, we quote: "At a special business meeting of the church . . . the parsonage committee was given the 'go ahead' signal to start raising funds for a parsonage. A building committee was elected to draw plans for the building itself and in general to oversee the work."

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. The first Northeastern Ohio Junior Brethren Youth Rally was held in the Trinity Brethren Church on Saturday, June 9th. The weather was perfect, there were 109 in attendance; the program and food were excellent. The well planned program included devotions led by the Canton Jet Cadets, Singspiration, Flannelgraph and Bible Drill and Quiz. The noon lunch was served at a nearby park; this was followed by a visit to the Canton zoo. The afternoon program included a film strip on happy times at home, followed by a short business meeting and a closing devotional period.

The noon meal was prepared and served by the mothers of the Canton Jet Cadets. Pastor Robert Keplinger was the general overseer.

The NEO Brethren Youth is to be commended for this forward step in Youth Rallies, in having this special all-Junior rally, geared to the junior age. Another Junior Rally is scheduled for November, and is to be held in the Smithville Church.

Juniors were present from Ashland, Park Street and Garber Memorial; Fremont, Smithville, Louisville, Fair Haven, and Canton. (WSB)

NEWARK, OHIO. The monthly family night, June 9th, was held in the newly purchased parsonage, just north of the Newark Chapel.

PERU, INDIANA. Brother Robert Madoski, formerly of Stockton, Calif., has accepted the call of the Peru church to serve as pastor. He has already begun his work at Peru, and on his first Sunday reports one conversion. A baptismal service was held after the evening service.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Brother Spencer Gentle has been able to return home from the hospital where he had been confined with a back injury.

Richard Allison, who will serve as assistant pastor of the Goshen church this summer, has moved with his family from Ashland, and is now active in the Goshen field.

WARSAW, INDIANA. Brother Robert Holsinger reports on average church attendance for the years 1953, 1954, 1955, and thus far in 1956, as 152, 159, 163, 175 respectively.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. Brother H. Francis Berkshire, of our Lanark church, and Dean of the Central District Young People's Camp, presented pictures and comments about the new camp site, in the Milledgeville church the evening of June 3rd.

Brother H. H. Rowsey notes that 68 people have been received into the church during his pastorate. At the present time a special effort is being made to win people to Christ. It is called a "One-A-Month" Club, in which church members promise to seek to win one for Christ each month. Results are evident. Three were baptized on June 3rd, and another baptismal service was scheduled for June 12th.

KENTUCKY CAMP

JUNE 25 to 30

Sponsored by the Riverside Christian Training School, Inc.

Anyone who memorizes I Peter, first and second chapters, can come without paying the fee of $3.00.

We are so pleased that a group of Brethren Youth Crusaders will be with us, not only for our Camp, but for the D. V. B. S. here, and at Rowdy

G. E. Drushal,
Lost Creek, Kentucky.

The Editor's Pulpit

The Value Of Your Minister

SO OFTEN WE TAKE OUR MINISTER for granted. Or we expect him to possess a sixth sense which automatically informs him of your needs and desires. Lacking the knowledge of your need, he is often criticized because he fails to inquire about you, or to visit you, when the actual fact is that he did not know about it.

Brother Robert L. Hoffman, who is the Pastor of our Smithville, Ohio, church, several years ago, printed a selected article on this subject of "Call Your Minister," in his church paper, "From The Lord's House To Your House." We are reproducing it here for the benefit of the Brotherhood, and hereby place our stamp of approval upon the content of it.

Too often, you know, we do not really consider the value of our Minister. Here is a man whose commission it is to be the shepherd of the sheep of his congregation. He is set apart for this task through prayer, dedication, and the laying on of hands by the Elders of the Church. Often he has spent many years in schooling, training himself to be a better servant of the Lord in ministering to his congregation. He comes to you with the desire to serve you. All he asks is that he get a fair break from the members of his congregation. He can do his work better, with a better spirit, and with great results, if he knows that his people are cooperating with him and are doing all they can to help make his ministry more effective.

Do you know that you can make or break your minister? While God protects him as He did the prophets and servants of old, yet a congregation can be the means of encouraging the minister or thrusting him into the depths of despair.

Specifically, now we are concerned with this matter of keeping your pastor informed. This Editor is convinced that more misunderstandings and hard feelings have resulted in churches between pastor and people over this one matter, than any other. Most pastors are concerned about the welfare of their members, and will do anything to help them in time of need. But, as we said, he does not possess a secret sense to know when you or a member of your family is suddenly taken ill, or needs some special help.

So, we are glad to bring to you this special article on "Call Your Minister:"

"Call Your Minister"

WHEN YOU ARE FACING A SERIOUS PROBLEM. Most ministers have been trained to help people with their personal and family problems. The impartial judgment of a spiritual leader, together with his prayers for Divine guidance will enable you to face your difficulties with confidence. Don't allow your problems to get too big for you.

WHEN SOMEONE IS INTERESTED IN THE CHURCH. You will meet young people and adults who are new in your community, and others who have not united with the local church. Put in a good word for your church and tell your pastor about these prospective church members.

WHEN THERE IS ILLNESS. Your minister is as near as your telephone. His presence, counsel, and prayer will be helpful. Your pastor will appreciate your phone call when you, your loved one, or friend is ill or going to the hospital.

WHEN THERE IS DEATH. Your minister should be notified immediately when there is a death in the family. He can give comfort and counsel at this difficult time. It is proper to consult him before funeral arrangements are made.

WHEN YOU MUST MAKE AN IMPORTANT DECISION. If you are a young person and face

(Continued on Page 11)

Favorite Sermons by Brethren Pastors

Rev. Bruce C. Shanholtz

A WALK THROUGH LIFE WITH GOD

Scripture: Genesis 5:21-24; Hebrews 11:1-6.

WE WOULD LIKE to develop this message from two verses of the Scripture which give, in a few words, the biography of "the seventh from Adam," Enoch.

Genesis 5:24 and Hebrews 11:5, read as follows: "And Enoch walked with God; and he was not; for God took him." "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him; for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God." These are great words filled with tremendous meaning. They are the record of a noble life, one which was lived with an aim and a purpose.

Every person has some aim and ambition in life. Certainly, no one wanders or struggles through life without aim or purpose. Everyone lives for something. Everyone desires to live, and everyone has a reason for such a desire. This gives meaning to life. To some life is a drudge, a misery, a multitude of unpleasant circumstances with material disappointments. To others life means opportunity, the opportunity to live for God and others in a spiritual atmosphere, though surrounded by a material, worldly environment, and, at the same time separate from the things of this world. This is the only real successful victorious life. This is the life Enoch lived. "He walked with God. And he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

The Bible teaches that every person should so live not to please self but to please God. Paul in Romans 15:3 says of Christ, "Even Christ pleased not Himself." I gather from this that even Christ in order to please the Heavenly Father and fulfill His demands had frequently to displease His human nature. Another place the Word says, "He was in all points tempted like as we yet without sin." And Jesus says of Himself in John 8:29 "I do always those things that please Him." God said in two distinct places, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." This briefly is the story of the life of Enoch. He lived for an aim and a purpose, to please God.

He lived by faith, he walked by faith, and thus walked with God, and his testimony was, that he pleased God. The next verse adds, "Without faith it is impossible to please him." The significance of the name Enoch, according to Genesis, and the Bible Dictionary, is "initiated," or, "dedicated, and trained." Enoch was initiated into the great secret of life, he had dedicated himself to one purpose and aim in life, he set himself apart purposely to "walk with God." He was enabled to overcome all difficulties, all unpleasant circumstances by means of his faith in God. Faith is the source of all triumphs. He not only exercised this faith for himself, but spent his life in doing good, in doing God's will.

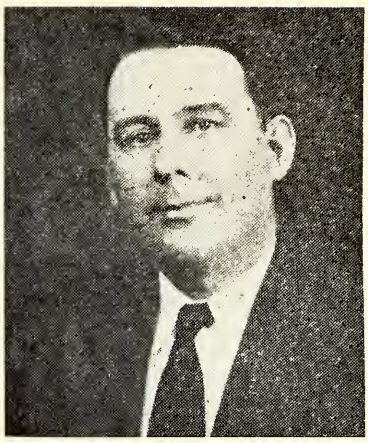
(A message delivered at Linwood, Maryland, on May 27, 1956.)

He was "a preacher of righteousness." He had learned Life's Supreme Lesson, that he who enters into and steadfastly maintains right relations with God has solved the problem of TRUE LIVING. This and nothing less is THE CHRISTIAN'S SECRET OF A HAPPY LIFE, **right relationship** with God, and this is the answer to many peoples' problems and troubles which causes their life misery and unhappiness. They are not in right relationship with God, their life is out of tune and harmony with His will. But here is a life which is a worthy example and pattern for our lives, one who was in right relationship with God, one who learned for himself the secret of life, one who lived to please God, one who walked with God and communed with Him day by day.

To walk or keep company with another person means agreement. You cannot long keep in company with someone with whom you disagree. The Brethren movement in Germany had its beginning under what was called "The Pietists." They were later called "Separatists." Christopher Hochmann, a Puritan, and Alexander Mack, were close friends and held much in common. But when it came to the organizing of a separate church Hochmann disagreed with Mack. Therefore, they parted company. Alexander Mack with seven others founded the Brethren Church. The Prophet of long ago, asked: "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" The answer is definitely no. Enoch walked with God because he agreed with God.

His agreement was the basis for his walking with God. He agreed with God's plan. He accepted God's way as the best. Not much is said about his life in words, but there is a mighty volume of deeds implied in the statement, "He walked with God, and he had this testimony that he pleased God." After all, doing good deeds, and not just mere words is what counts most of all. We read of Jesus. He went about doing good, ministering to the needs of the people. That is true with Enoch's life; he lived for God, doing good for others, even doing good to those who did him evil and wrong.

You know our reward at the Judgment Bar of God is going to be conditioned on the good we have done for others. For, did not Jesus say, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that Day, Lord, Lord,



REV. BRUCE C. SHANHOLTZ

have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? and then will I profess unto them I never knew you, depart from me ye that work iniquity." Matt. 7:21-23.

Then read for yourselves Matt. 25:31-46, and see what Jesus says about a life of service, of helping and of doing deeds of goodness and kindness for others. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." And these, the ones on the left, who have lived for self, for self-glorification, for self-gratification, shall go away into everlasting punishment; but these, those who have lived for God and to His glorification and honor, these whose lives have been spent in service to God and to mankind, these righteous ones who have lived this life for Christ and the Church, shall enter life eternal.

Let us take stock of our lives. This Great Day, the Day of Judgment, the Day before which we must all appear, may be nearer than we think. Let us live now to please God, let us walk day by day with Him, let us ever strive to do His will, let us keep our lives in tune and harmony with Him all the way. Let us make Him our constant Companion and Friend. He has promised, "Certainly I will be with thee, all the way even to the end." Let us permit Him to lead and to guide us. He will lead us over the rough places in life. This is what Enoch did, he lived for God.

It makes little difference how long we live, but how and for whom we live. Let us live now, today for God; we may not see tomorrow. Here is a life suddenly and prematurely cut short; although Enoch lived 365 years, it was not half the

usual age of the men of his day. Naturally, everyone wants to live as long as they can and one of the special promises of God to His people is, "With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation." Yet on the other hand the length or the quantity of days is not too important, the quality is what counts most of all. Forty or fifty years lived for God and the Church and others is longer and better than a life lived for the Devil and for self, though lived many years longer.

That is the tragic truth, that all around us there are people who appear to be still in their sins with no evidence of the presence of God and the precious Holy Spirit in their lives. Brethren, as a church in the community let us ask ourselves, are we doing all we can to win the unsaved to a saving knowledge of the Gospel? A few days ago I was traveling in a certain city. I passed a certain church which I had passed many times. I had to stop for a red light just opposite the church's bulletin board. The bulletin board and its announcements attracted my attention. This little sentence I read and repeated several times, "A church in the heart of the city, with the city at heart." Do we really have the Church at heart? Is our whole heart and soul in the Church? Shall we keep our hearts and minds united to win souls to Christ and build up His Church, or shall we allow some little petty ideas to retard the Church's progress? The church's business is a soul-saving business. We are here to win men to the Lord Jesus Christ. We are entrusted with the Gospel to take it to those from whom it is hid, the lost. As Christians, ministers, laymen, W. M. S., Sunday School workers, Brethren Youth, each of us, all of us, anything less than our best will not please God.

Someone has said, "Christianity is like a bicycle, when it stops it either falls over or goes backward." Let us keep going forward in Christ. Let us do as Enoch did, "initiate" or "dedicate" our lives to God and His work. Let us keep our light shining before men that they may see our good works and be constrained to wonder.

This is the way to please God as Enoch did. His life was spent in fellowship with God. His was a noble testimony. He walked with God, he progressed day by day because in his life there was a strong persistence and determination. Only in this same spirit can we live triumphantly and victorious. There have been people who thought they could live without God, and perhaps there are those who still think the same.

Belshazzar thought he could live without God. He forgot God, but God did not forget him. While he was feasting with a thousand of his lords, their wives and concubines, drinking wine from the sacred vessels of the Temple, a mysterious hand appeared on the plaster of the wall of his palace which troubled him greatly. He could not read the mysterious writing but had to have God's man, Daniel, to read it to him: "God hath numbered thy kingdom and finished it. Thou art weighed in the balances and found wanting. Thy kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

Felix thought he could live without God. As St. Paul stood before him and witnessed of righteousness and of judgment to come, he answered Paul, "Go thy way, Paul, when I have a more convenient season I will call for thee." That convenient season never came. Tradition says he committed suicide. King Agrippa tried to live without God, but what a miserable life. When St. Paul stood before him and testified of how the Lord appeared to him and the change that was wrought in his life, Agrippa said, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." What a misery life must be without aim and purpose, and the one supreme purpose "to please God."

We are living in a world of sin, we are surrounded with evil forces. We represent that body, or rather are a part of that body of believers for whom Jesus prayed in His High-Priestly prayer in John 17. "They are in the world, but they are not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them from the world, but that

(Continued on Page 13)

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

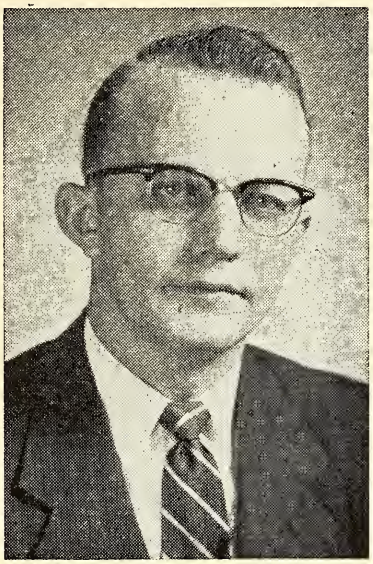
August 13 - 19, 1956

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

IISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
24 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

SARASOTA'S NEW PASTOR



FOLLOWING GENERAL CONFERENCE this summer, our newest Brethren Church, at Sarasota, Florida, will have a full-time pastor—Reverend Lyle Lichenberger.

Reverend Lichtenberger, a native of Elkhart, Indiana, vas graduated from Ashland College in 1951 with the A.B. degree and from Ashland Theological Seminary in 954 with the B.D. degree. He has been a successful pasor at Berlin, Pennsylvania, for the past three years. Vhile in college he was active in the Gospel Team, A Cappella Choir and Ambassador's Quartet.

Reverend and Mrs. Lichtenberger (the former LaVonne Maust of Waterloo, Iowa) are the parents of three lovey little children (a boy and girl of their own, four and ive years of age, and a little girl of eight, whom they re rearing). We are happy to send these fine young eople to Sarasota and we believe they will make a reat contribution to the program there.

At Sarasota

Down Florida-way the work proceeds apace. Even hough the Brethren in this new field are eager for a ull-time pastor, they are not folding their hands and vaiting until he arrives to work. Quite the contrary! They re actively engaged in providing a fine home for the astor-family when they arrive.

Since renting is very expensive and difficult, they have ndertaken to build a parsonage and equip it with permanent furnishings, in so far as possible. These people re certainly to be commended for their foresight and nitiative.

It should be noted at this point that a full-time pastor is being secured for Sarasota at the request of Reverend Vanator and the members—not with the idea of replacing him, but because the work needs more pastoral work to build it up and Reverend Vanator needs relief from the demands entailed by the growing program.

Reverend Vanator and his family have been instrumental in beginning and organizing this group of Brethren people; he has been assisted to a considerable extent by Reverend Lemert, who has now returned to Indiana for a lengthy period of time, leaving Reverend Vanator the entire responsibility for services. These two ministers have done a fine piece of work—entirely without remuneration. The Brethren Church should be—and is—grateful to them.

Now, after several years of strenuous "retirement activity," Reverend Vanator would appreciate a bit of relief for himself and someone to take on a definite pastoral program to build the church; hence he has made an appeal for a pastor at Sarasota.

The Sarasota Brethren are continuing to accumulate a fund for a church building, to be started as soon as such a step is feasible.

Ten Dollar Club

In this connection, we should mention that new Ten Dollar Club calls will be sent out within a week for the Sarasota Church. It is true, our last call was issued for Sarasota; however, the funds received from this call came to only $5,900.00—and that is not enough to justify beginning construction; therefore we hope another call will provide sufficient for this purpose.

Ten Dollar Club Members, give as liberally as possible to this call—any amount from ten dollars on UP. As soon as we have a large enough amount we will begin to build.

REGARDING CHURCH FINANCING

The Associated Press quotes Darrell K. Smith—"Nowhere in Holy Scriptures do we find a command or entreaty for the conduct of rummage sales, chicken suppers . . . bingo or lottery games to keep up the finances of the Christian church . . . God has a plan in tithes and free-will offerings . . . The great need today is for church members to get their thinking straight in regard to the financing of the church . . . "

—**The Bulletin,** American Associated Fund-Raising Counsel

PROGRAM OF THE SEVENTY-THIRD OHIO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Linwood Park, Vermillion, Ohio

July 12-15, 1956

Host Church: Canton, Ohio

(Sessions on Daylight Saving Time)

THEME: THE CHURCH

Conference Text: Mt. 16:18: "I will build my church"

PROGRAM

Thursday Morning—July 12

10:00 Registration of Adults and Brethren Youth

12:00 Dinner

Thursday Afternoon

2:00 Call to Order
Song Service
Devotions .....Moderator John T. Byler
2:30 Vice Moderator's Address .....Robert Keplinger
"I Will Build My Church"
3:15 Simultaneous Sessions
W. M. S., Ministers, Laymen,
Brethren Youth: "The Warm-up"
Leader: Jerry Flora
4:00 Sisterhood Business Session
5:30 Supper

Thursday Evening

7:30 Singspiration
Brethren Youth Presentation .....Phil Lersch
Conference Offering
Special Music
8:15 Moderator's Address .....John T. Byler
"The Church United"
9:00 Youth Activities .....Phil & Jean Lersch
Pictures of European Work Camp

Friday Morning—July 13

Brethren Youth Breakfast (Place to be announced)
9:00 Conference Prayer Service
Directed by William Fells
Brethren Youth Prayer Service
Directed by Harold Barnett
9:20 Song Service
Devotions .....J. G. Dodds
9:30 Address .....William Anderson
"The Church At Prayer"
Special Music
10:15 Bible Lecture .....Dean Delbert Flora
11:00 Simultaneous Sessions
W. M. S., Laymen, Ministers
Brethren Youth .....Leader, Jerry Flora
Speaker, Grant Carothers
12:00 Dinner

Friday Afternoon

1:30 Song
Devotions .....George Solomon
Business Session
Report of Credential Committee
Organization of Conference
Action on Report of 1956 Committee on Committees
Statistician's Report
Report of District Ministerial Examining Board
Report of District Board of Evangelists
Conference Treasurer's Report
Report of Brethren Publishing Company
Report of Brethren Youth Board
3:45 W. M. S. Open Session
Youth Recreation .....Leader, Kenneth Solomon
5:30 Supper

Friday Evening

7:30 Singspiration
7:45 Devotions and College Program
8:15 Address .....Kenneth Solomon
"The Church Witnessing"
9:00 Brethren Youth Camp Fire,
Leader, John T. Byler, Speaker, Grant Carothers

Saturday Morning—July 14

6:00 Brethren Youth Sunrise Service
Leader, Bill Curtis, Speaker, Grant Carothers
7:00 Morning Dip in Lake Erie

OHIO DISTRICT CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Moderator .....John T. Byler
Vice Moderator .....Robert Keplinger
Secretary-Treasurer .....Robert L. Hoffman
Assistant Secretary .....William H. Anderson
Statistician .....L. V. King

9:00 Conference Prayer Service
Directed by Alvin Grumbling
Brethren Youth Prayer Service
Directed by Harold Barnett
9:20 Song Service
Devotions .....Ray Aspinall
Address .....Robert L. Hoffman
"The Church Filled With The Holy Spirit"
Special Music
10:15 Bible Lecture .....Dean Delbert Flora
11:00 Simultaneous Sessions
W. M. S., Laymen, Ministers
Brethren Youth .....Sisterhood Meeting,
Speaker, Mrs. Glenn Clayton
12:00 Dinner

Saturday Afternoon

1:30 Song
Devotions .....Elmer Frank
Business Session
Reading of Minutes
Final Report of Credential Committee
Election of 1957 Conference Officers
Election of Committee on Committees
Report of District Mission Board
Camp and Sunday School Report
Auditing Committee Report
Resolutions Committee Report
Special Committee Reports
Selection of place of meeting for 1957 Conference
Unfinished Business
Final Reading of Minutes
3:45 Simultaneous Sessions
(If desired to complete business)
Brethren Youth Recreation
Leader, Kenneth Solomon

Saturday Evening

5:30-7:30 Banquets: W. M. S., Laymen and Ministers
Brethren Youth "Beach Banquet"
Canton Brethren Youth,
Speaker, Grant Carothers
8:00 Song Service and Devotions
Installation of New Conference Officers
Program directed by Missionary Board
Bischofs speaking

Sunday Morning—July 15

9:45 Sunday School .....Directed by Canton officers
11:00 Worship Service
Message .....Charles R. Munson
"The Church Triumphant"

W. M. S. PROGRAM

Theme: "I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it." Rev. 3:8.

Thursday—July 12

10:00-12:00 Conference Registration
3:15 W. M. S. Opening Session
Call to Order
Welcome .....Mrs. Lloyd Brown
Song Service:
Leader .....Mrs. Howard Winfield
Pianist .....Mrs. Myron Kem
Announcements and Committee Reports
Special Number .....Mrs. Joseph Shultz
Speaker .....Mrs. Lloyd Studebaker
Question Period
Benediction

Friday morning—July 13

11:00 Call to Order
Devotions .....Mrs. Robert Bischof
Special Number .....Mrs. Phil Lersch
Business
Benediction

Friday afternoon

3:45 Call to Order
Song Service
Special Number .....Sisterhood Girls
Speaker .....Mrs. Russell Rodkey
Business
Roll Call for banner societies
Offering for Ministerial Fund (Goal No. 3)
Discussion Period
Closing song and Benediction

Saturday morning—July 14

11:00 Call to Worship
Song Service
Devotions .....Mrs. Robert Bischof
Special Number .....Mrs. Myron Kem
Business
Closing Song and Benediction

Saturday evening

5:30-7:30 Banquet
Banquet arranged by the Canton W. M. S. Program provided by the Ashland Societies. Table decorations planned by the Georgetown W. M. S.
Recognition of Banner Societies
Mrs. Clayton Berkshire
Installation of Officers .....Mrs. Russell Rodkey
Candlelight Dedication Service
All W. M. S. Members
8:00 Missionary Rally

LAYMEN'S PROGRAM

Thursday—July 12

10:00-12:00 Registration

(Continued on Next Page)

3:15 Joint Session of Ministers and Laymen
Program arranged by Ministers

Friday morning—July 13

11:00 Devotions in charge of Northeastern Ohio Laymen's Ass'n., Forrest Albright, President
11:15 Laymen's Business Session

Saturday morning—July 14

11:00 Devotions in charge of Miami Valley Laymen's Assn., Dale Roesch, President
11:15 Laymen's Business Session
Election of Officers

Saturday afternoon

5:30 Laymen and Minister's Banquet
J. Garber Drushal, Speaker
Installation of Officers

DISTRICT MINISTERIUM PROGRAM

Thursday—July 12
3:15 P. M.

Evangelism .....Panel Discussion

Friday—July 13
11:00 A. M.

Church Extension in Ohio .....Brainstorming

Saturday—July 14
11:00 A. M.

Business

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Conference Board of Trustees: 1956—Dwight L. Miller, 1957—Glenn L. Clayton, 1958—Everett Keplinger, 1959—J. E. Stookey, 1960—A. E. Schwab.

Ministerial Examining Board: 1956—Delbert B. Flora, 1957—Charles R. Munson, 1958—L. V. King, Chairman.

District Mission Board: 1956—W. Clayton Berkshire, 1957—Harold Barnett, 1958—Percy C. Miller; Elected for one year: Elton Whitted, Myron Kem, E. O. Frank.

General Conference Executive Committee: John T. Byler, W. S. Crick.

Nominees for College Trustees: Harland Clapper, John Eck, Fred Eccard, Paul Clapper, Oliver Parker, Robert Kline.

Credential Committee: Robert Keplinger, Mrs. Kurt Beneleit, H. R. Garland, Mrs. Glenn Clayton.

Sunday School Board: 1956—William H. Anderson, 1957—John T. Byler, 1958—Robert L. Hoffman.

Church Comity Committee: John Byler, Clarence Stogsdill, Myron Dodds.

District Evangelist: 1956—Clarence Fairbanks, 1957—W. S. Crick, 1958—J. G. Dodds.

Rules and Organization: J. G. Dodds, Myron Kem, W. S. Benshoff.

Camp Site Committee: Elbert Wallace, Robert L. Hoffman, Joe Brubaker.

Shipshewana Committee: J. E. Stookey, W. S. Crick.

Boys' Work Committee: Charles Munson, Clarence Stogsdill, Robert Keplinger.

Committee on Moderator's Address: W. C. Berkshire, Everett Keplinger, John Eck.

Auditing Committee: E. O. Frank, Mrs. Robert Hoffman, Robert Bisset.

Resolutions Committee: W. S. Crick, George Solomon, Mrs. Clayton Berkshire.

Brethren Youth Board: 1956—John T. Byler, 1957—Phil Lersch, 1958—Kenneth Solomon; Elected for one year: Jerry Flora, Bill Curtis.

Committee on Committees: John Eck, Charles Munson, Percy Miller.

Woman's Missionary Society

President .....Mrs. Frank Morrison, Dayton
Vice President .....Mrs. Clayton Berkshire, Ashland
Secretary-Treasurer .....Mrs. Lloyd Brown, Canton
Assistant Secretary .....Mrs. Donald Rowser, Ashland

Sisterhood of Mary and Martha

President .....Marilyn Miller, Ashland College
Vice President .....Joyce Schmit, Dayton
Secretary-Treasurer .....Linda Beneleit, Canton
Patroness .....Mrs. Robert Keplinger, Canton
Assistant Patroness ....Mrs. Robert Hoffman, Smithville

Laymen

President .....Myron Kem, Dayton
Vice President .....Elmer O. Frank, Rittman
Secretary .....Ora Baer, Canton
Assistant Secretary .....Everett Keplinger, Dayton
Treasurer .....Elvan Musselman, New Lebanon
Assistant Treasurer .....Delbert Mellinger, Ashland

Ministerium

President .....Charles R. Munson, Ashland
Vice President .....William H. Anderson, Pleasant Hill
Secretary Treasurer .....Harold Barnett, Mansfield

NOTICE

The Brethren Church of Mansfield, Ohio, desires to contact anyone interested in the pastorate of this church. Write to:

Mrs. Herbert Longshore, Church Secretary,
546 W. 4th St.,
Mansfield, Ohio.

Laid to Rest

MOHLER. Mrs. Minnie May Mohler, 69, passed away at Duke's Hospital, June 4, 1956. Born Aug. 14, 1886, in Opello, Conway Co., Ark. Member of the Peru Brethren Church, although inactive for the past 12 years due to failing health. Survived by husband, Aaron, and three sons, Earl, of Peru, Fred, of Monticello, Ind., and Carl, of Sarasota, Fla. Funeral services held from Gilead Methodist Church, with the undersigned assisting. Burial in Gilead cemetery.

Robert Madoski, Pastor,
Peru Brethren Church,
Peru, Indiana.

* * *

STUTZMAN. Elmer F. Stutzman, 73, died May 11, 1956, in Lee Hospital, Johnstown, Pa. Born July 29, 1882. Preceded in death by first wife, Goldie, and second wife, Sally. Survived by two sons, six daughters, and three step-children. Also by 29 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Formerly belonged to old Rosedale Church, later transferring to the Third Brethren Church where he was an active layman, and member of the Lookout Bible Class. Funeral services conducted by Rev. W. B. Brant; interment, Benshoff Cemetery, Johnstown.

John J. Golby.

THE EDITOR'S PULPIT

THE VALUE OF YOUR MINISTER

(Continued from Page 3)

a decision about going to college, arranging your course of study, or choosing your life work, make an appointment to see your minister. The viewpoint of your spiritual advisor should be considered.

WHEN THERE IS TO BE A WEDDING. Your pastor should be consulted before the wedding day is set. Since you will undoubtedly desire to have one or more conferences with your minister, it is advisable to contact him well in advance of the wedding.

WHEN SOMEONE DESIRES TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN. Happy, indeed, is the pastor who is asked to talk with someone desiring to become a Christian. Tell your minister about friends of yours who are interested in knowing more about the Christian life.

Just remember, your minister is as near as your telephone!

YES—WHICH?

There are two ways to begin the day—with prayer, or without it. You begin the day in one of these two ways. Which?

There are two ways of spending the Lord's Day—idly or devotionally. You spend the Lord's Day in one of these two ways. Which?

There are two classes of people in the world—the righteous and the wicked. You belong to one of these two classes. Which?

There are two great rulers in the universe—God and Satan. You are serving under one of these two great rulers. Which?

There are two roads which lead through time to eternity—the broad and the narrow road. You are walking in one of these two roads. Which?

There are two deaths which people die—some "die in the Lord"; others "die in their sins." You will die one of these two deaths. Which?

There are two places to which people go—heaven and hell. You will go to one of these places. Which?

Ponder these questions! Pray over them! May the issue be your salvation from "the wrath to come."—Selected.

» » » » Our Poet's Corner « « « «

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Roxie E. Stahl

If you were God, what would you do
If mankind had no time for you?
How would you feel, day after day,
When no one came to kneel and pray,
And lift his cup for you to fill;
Or seek to know thy Holy Will?
Would you offer to each thankless one—
The sinless Christ, your only Son?
Could you pour out blessings on a human race
Too busy to keep or to want Thy grace?
If no one ever spoke to you—
And YOU were God—
What would you do?

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

UNTO THIS LEAST

Inasmuch (Matt. 25:40)

While the cobbler mused there passed his pane
A beggar drenched by the driving rain.
He called him in from the stormy street,
And gave him shoes for his bruised feet.
The beggar went and there came a crone,
Her face with wrinkles of sorrow sown.
A bundle of faggots bowed her back,
And she was spent with the wrench and rack.
He gave her his loaf and steadied her load
As she took her way on the weary road.
Then to his door came a little child,
Lost and afraid in the world so wild,
In the big dark world. Catching it up,
He gave it milk in the waiting cup,
And led it home to mother's arms.
The day went down in the crimson west,
And with it the hope of the Blessed Guest,
And Conrad sighed as the whole world turned gray;
"Why is it, Lord, that your feet delay?
Did you forget that this was the day?"
Then soft in the silence a voice was heard:
"Lift your heart, for I kept My word;
Three times I came to your friendly door;
Three times My shadow was on your floor;
I was the beggar with the bruised feet;
I was the woman you gave to eat;
I was the child on the homeless street."

—Edwin Markham.

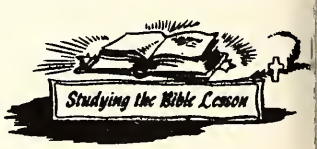
"A CUP OF COLD WATER" given to a missionary, native worker, or convert in the mission field by your means in the name of Christ assures you of your reward (Mark 9:41). "Inasmuch" as you have visited, comforted or fed "one of the least of these" His brethren, you have done it unto Jesus Christ Himself (Matt. 25:40). Your sending of the gospel to the needy anywhere is as "cold water to a thirsty soul" (Prov. 25:25). Like Paul, we are in debt to the farthest sinner and the weakest saint (Rom. 1:14, 15).

Christ was our "Good Samaritan" (Luke 10:33, 34; Acts 10:38). To follow in His steps we shall have to do Christian help work (1 John 2:6). To minister to the needy is to really serve Him (Matt. 25:40). Though there will always be "the poor" (Matt. 26:11), "the Lord is the maker of them (Prov. 22:2). One good evidence of genuine repentance is showing mercy to the poor" (Dan. 4:27). To right matters with the poor is to show a knowledge of God (Jer. 22:16). We are to "visit the fatherless and the widows in their affliction" (James 1: 27). We are to give that which really helps (Acts 3:6; 2 Cor. 12:8). Money has a place, but there are other gifts of greater value (Job 29:24).

Job searched out the needs of the poor (Job 29:16) God wants His people to be sensitive to poverty, suffer ing, and distress (Isaiah 42:22, 23). God has made pro vision for the outcasts (Isaiah 16:3, 4). God's fastin program means self-denial for the good of others (Isaia 58:6, 7). God has made great promises to those wh minister to the wants and distresses of others (Isaia 58:10, 11). He has promised to repay those who give t the poor (Prov. 10:17; 28:27). "Give, and it shall b given you" (Luke 6:38; Gal. 6:7; Psalm 18:25, 26; 109 17).

Christ, with a "feeling of our infirmities," wants Hi people to visit the sick (Matt. 25:36; Heb. 4:15). H brought relief to Peter's household (Matt. 8:14, 15) In our ministry for the sick we should not forget t pray (James 5:16). Christ is our Example for goin about doing good (1 John 4:17; Acts 10:38). Christ als gives an incentive for doing prison work (Matt. 25:36 Psalm 102:19, 20). God sent His Son to liberate the pris oners in the prison-house of sin (Isaiah 42:7; Luke 4:18 Psalm 142:7). God has not forgotten His people whon the devil has cast into prison (Psalm 69:33; Rev. 2:10 Dan. 11:33-35).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson



Lesson for July 1, 1956

WRITINGS FOR PERILOUS TIMES

Lesson: I Peter 2:19-25; Jude 3, 17-25

"Faith of our fathers! Holy faith!
We will be true to Thee till death!"

HOW MUCH WE OWE to the saints who have gon before us! We are indeed deeply in debt to ou Godly forefathers who stood faithful to the truth of Go that was given to them. God would have us remembe their faith and follow their example.

For this reason, God would encourage us by the writ ings of faithful men, who, under the direction and im pulse of the Holy Spirit, set down words of edificatio and encouragement.

Peter was one who could write concerning sufferin and persecution. He wrote to Christians who wer experiencing the fires of trial. Listen to some of th expressions he used: "manifold temptations"; "trial o your faith"; "trial with fire"; "suffer for righteousness sake"; "fiery trial"; "partakers of Christ's sufferings" "reproached for the name of Christ." To Christians pass ing through deep and troubled waters, therefore, Pete wrote words of faith and encouragement.

There are two reasons why a genuine Christian ma experience suffering and persecution. First, he may suf fer because of his own wrong doing and mistakes. Whe this happens he should not expect praise or glory, fo "what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for you

aults, ye shall take it patiently?" Secondly, a righteous hristian may suffer rebuke because of righteousness. When ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, his is acceptable with God."

"But why should it be," we ask Peter, "that a Chris-an attempting to live righteously before God must suf-er trial, and persecution, and rebuff?" Peter would an-wer: "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ lso suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye hould follow His steps."

Another New Testament writer who was able to offer piritual encouragement was Jude. He was a brother of ames, and hence one of the brothers of Jesus. Frank S. Iead says of Jude: "He . . . was a man deeply concerned ith the Gospel of Jesus, and with certain dangers which ad arisen within the church to threaten it . . . Godless en had infiltrated into the church; under the cloak of hristian profession they were saying and doing things hich were not only disgraceful from the standpoint of uman morality and behavior, but were threatening to ndermine the Gospel itself."

Because of this, Jude's admonition was this: "Contend arnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered nto the saints." The words "earnestly contend" are erived from the same root word that is translated agony" in Luke 22:44, and "fight" in I Tim. 6:12. It **; clear, therefore, that Jude stoutly maintained it was bsolutely essential that Christians retain the faith of e Gospel as presented in God's Word!**

Now one last exhortation from Dr. Mead: "This truth ust be defended: and Jude says that the best defense f it is found in the influence of a holy, Christian life. he false charges must be answered, yea: **but true Chris-an living is the final proof of the truth of the Christian ospel!"**

A WALK THROUGH LIFE WITH GOD

(Continued from Page 6)

hou should keep them from the evil." Herein is he Church's challenge; are we doing all we can o redeem the world? There was wickedness and ll kinds of sins in Enoch's day, his life was pent amid surrounding wickedness, yet he valked with God. He did not become so engrossed n the things of this life that could have side-racked him from his aim and purpose of pleas-ng God.

He did not become weary and faint-hearted in he battle of life, he kept faith in God. He could ave easily said, the world is getting worse and nore wicked, I am only one man, I can't do much, may as well quit. But no, he felt he had a con-ribution to make to the world to do all he could o make it better, and that though many times e no doubt had to take his stand alone; yet he vas sure that God was with and for him, and if God be for him who could be against him? That too must be the Christian's position in life today.

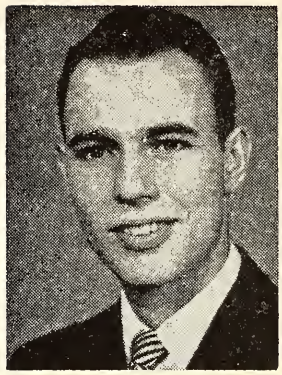
The sins of today are generally the same as the sins of Enoch's day. The hatred and the murder and other deadly sins of today are just about the same as they were then, SIN. The fourth chapter of Genesis tells of the birth of Cain and Abel. The same chapter tells of the hatred and murder of Abel by his brother Cain. The sixth chapter tells of the exceeding wickedness of mankind; that God looked down upon them in anger and said, "My Spirit shall not always strive with man. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart." So far as we know this is the only time God ever repented. Oh how his heart must be grieved today as He looks down from His Throne in Heaven upon mankind.

Finally, Enoch's life was crowned by translation. "He walked with God, and he was not for God took him." His translation was a reminder to the men of his day and every other day that this life is not the end, but there is another life above and beyond this present life, and that our fondest ambition should be to so live now as to be worthy to enter the life that shall never end. That we may be worthy to hear our Saviour and King's crowning words, "Come ye blessed of my Father inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

Linwood, Maryland.

NEWS FROM
BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director



THIS IS THE FIRST ARTICLE to appear from th pen of our new National Brethren Youth Director, REV PHIL LERSCH. We welcome Phil to our staff of regula writers for the EVANGELIST. Phil is getting into th full swing of the Brethren Youth work as note his com ments in the accompanying article. You will be hearin more from him about Brethren Youth, each week on thi page. W. S. B.

BRETHREN YOUTH

HI THERE, we've been waiting for you. That is, waiting for you to take a few moments today to learn something more about Brethren Youth and its activities by reading the following utterances from the printed page. But before the news, there is something more important to be said.

NOT "GOODBYE" BUT "AUFWIEDERSEHEN"

These are our words to the retiring Youth Director, Rev. Clarence Stogsdill. To be sure, he is not retiring of old age, but rather just changing his area of active service from Ashland to Johnstown. Clarence has served Brethren Youth well in the past three years and I know his future pastorate will be blessed and expand the cause of Christ under his able leadership. My most grateful thanks goes out to Clarence for his untiring patience with me in the past few weeks. His willingness to help me learn the "ropes" of the Brethren Youth work by answering questions and offering suggestions has aided immeasurably. And so, to our mutual friend, whose heart has been in Brethren Youth work these past three years and will continue to be there in the many years to come, we cannot say "goodbye." But let us say as the Germans do, "Till we meet again," which is, being interpreted, "Aufwiedersehen."

BRETHREN YOUTH IS SERVING YOU

THE CRUSADERS, under the direction of Brethren Youth, are conducting Bible Schools in five of our churches this summer. We'll try to keep you up to date on their activities and the location of their work as the weeks go by. Most of the Crusaders are already in action.

June 11-24 .....Goshen, Indiana
Carol Berkshire, Teegarden, Indiana
Carol Johnson, Ashland, Ohio
Betty Myers, Berlin, Pennsylvania

June 18-30 .....Lost Creek, Kentucky
Joann Rummell, South Bend, Indiana
Susan Miller, Goshen, Indiana
Bonnie Swihart, Goshen, Indiana

Some of these girls look upon this work as tithing their summer's vacation. In addition to that, it is a valuable training period for greater service for the Lord in future years both in the home church and on foreign soil. For each week that a Crusader is working in a Bible School, $15 is applied to her tuition or future tuition at Ashland College. Perhaps you have some capable young people in your own church who, with a little encouragement, would find great blessings in this work next summer. Now is the time to think about it.

The other Brethren Youth team, the Ambassador Quartet, will be traveling in about forty-five Brethren Churches from August 4 to September 19. There is tim later for these details.

BRETHREN YOUTH IS MOVED AND MOVING

No, Brethren Youth "ain't where she use ta be." W certainly want all of you to come and visit the Brethre Youth office, especially at National Conference, but don lose time by looking in the old location. Come to th Student Union on Ashland College Campus to make you future visits. Just off the beautiful main lounge you wi find our convenient new office. A welcome awaits yo there in this student center.

Brethren Youth expresses its appreciation to Ashlan College for making this move possible. It will be advar tageous to the Youth Director in his contacting an counselling with students on campus, and will also pr vide pleasant surroundings for all you guests who wi be coming in. Remember, a special invitation is extende to you from August 13-19.

Brethren Youth is fortunate in having Jim Rowsey, ou part-time secretary, serve for the summer months. Ji has already proved himself invaluable in organizing th new office and in working on the many endless task that always appear in any office. Also his leadershi in campus religious groups this past year has shown h interest in youth work. He worked endlessly in the Co lege Christian Endeavor and Mid-Week Meditatio groups and this past experience will be helpful to Bretl ren Youth. We're glad to have you aboard, Jim. Ou thanks also goes out to Miss Edith York, a close frier of Mr. Rowsey, who has been assisting the assistant.

The Youth Director is literally "on the move." He is the schedule of travel for the coming weeks. If the journeys representing Brethren Youth come near you, i troduce yourself and give to him any suggestions yo may have concerning the future of Brethren Youth.

June 13-14—Indiana District Conference
June 15—Conferring with the Youth Board presider Rev. Virgil Meyer

June 16—Back to Ashland
June 17—Preaching at the Ashland Church
Travel to Lost Creek delivering Brethren Youth Crusaders
June 18—Visiting youth at Lost Creek
June 19, 20—Southeastern District Conference
June 21, 22, and 23—Back in Ashland

As Brethren Youth is moving on a national scale, not only in body but also in spirit, we trust that your local Brethren Youth Crusaders are moving actively during these summer months. Brethren Youth is here to serve God by serving you. If we can be of help in any way, we will be happy. Let your requests be made known.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE FISH BOWL YET?

HOW ABOUT YOUR OFFERINGS?

JUST IN CASE you have neglected to send in your offering to one or more of our Denominational enterprises, and since most of our Boards and Organizations close their books July 1st, we are listing for you the various Treasurers to whom you can send your gifts. We suggest you act promptly; in other words, DO IT TODAY!

THE EDUCATIONAL DAY OFFERING

Make checks payable to Ashland College, and send to Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio, and mark on Envelope, "Educational Day Offering."

HOME MISSION OFFERING

Make checks payable to the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

WHITE GIFT OFFERING

Make checks payable to Henry Bates, Treasurer of the National Sunday School Association, and address to Rev. Henry Bates, North Manchester, Indiana.

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

Make checks payable to The Brethren Publishing Company, and address The Brethren Publishing Company, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

BENEVOLENT OFFERING

(For Brethren's Home and Retired Ministers' Fund)

Make checks payable to L. V. King, Treasurer, and address Rev. L. V. King, 1033 E. Main St., Louisville, Ohio.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFERING

(Easter)

Make checks payable to The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING

Make checks payable to William Fells, Treasurer, and address, Rev. William Fells, 232 Sherman Ave., Ashland, Ohio.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT?

THE OTHER DAY I was reading an article with this title and it set me to thinking. The Bible says "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." If you tell me what you think of when your mind and body are relaxed, then one can tell what kind of person you are. Psalms 119:59 tells us "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies."

Men and women do a lot of thinking in the world of industry, science and the arts, but is it the right thinking? Is it straight thinking? Someone asked Noah Webster "What is the greatest thought that ever entered your mind?" His quick reply was, "My relation to God." Not all people think this way.

All thinking is not good when we fall on our own self. But if we turn to Him, darkness turns to light. The way of God is truth. If you believe that Christ died for you and you accept Him as your Saviour, you will find He is the answer to all your needs. Then your thinking will always be for His glory. Also you will want to win those souls for Him that are thinking wrong. They need to think of God. Do you?

Mrs. H. Francis Berkshire,
Lanark, Illinois.

BLACKSTEN-DEVILBISS. Miss Marion Blacksten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Blacksten, Westminster, Md., became the bride of William Howard Devilbiss, Pleasant Valley, Md., in a double ring ceremony in the Brethren Church, Linwood, Md., Sunday, May 20, 1956 at 2:30 P. M. The ceremony was solemnized by the Pastor, the Rev. Bruce C. Shanholtz. Following the ceremony, a reception for more than 300 guests was held in the social room of the church. Robert DeGroft, Littlestown, Pa., was Soloist, with Mrs. Adelaide Englar, York, Pa., was Organist. The bride was given in marriage by her father. The bride is a graduate of New Windsor High School, and the bridegroom is a graduate of Westminster High School. After the wedding the couple left for a wedding trip through New England. They plan to live at 21 Park Avenue, Westminster, Md.

Bruce C. Shanholtz, Pastor.

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOIR—MANTECA BRETHREN CHURCH

Manteca, California

Description of Personnel on Page Two

Pennsylvania District Conference Program in this Issue

VOL. LXXVIII June 30, 1956 No. 26

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. From the Sarasota bulletin we note that at a recent business meeting, the members voted "to purchase a home, now under construction, on the corner of Tuttle Ave. and Cheryle St., in Paver Park as the new parsonage for our soon-to-be resident pastor." It will be ready for occupancy when the Lichtenbergers arrive about September 1st.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The Laymen's Public Service was held the evening of June 13th, with Dr. Paul Haak, M.D., as guest speaker.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND. A dedication service for new hymn books was held the morning of May 20th.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Rev. Rolland Reece, of the Niez EUB Church was the guest speaker at Trinity Brethren the evening of June 24th.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Guest Speaker the morning of June 24th was Coach Robert Long, of the faculty of West Alexandria High School.

BRYAN, OHIO. Jack McDaniel was the special speaker for the Laymen's Public Service on June 17th, and also brought the message the evening of June 24th.

NEWARK, OHIO. Brother William S. Crick reports an attendance of 33 at their recent Family Night held at the recently purchased parsonage.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. Brother W. E. Thomas notes a recent Sunday School attendance of 137.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Rev. Saunders, Superintendent of the Wayside Mission brought the morning message in the Muncie church on June 10th.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates notes that the average attendance at their Mid-Week Prayer and Bible Study for the year June, 1955 through May 31, 1956, was 33.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. Three were baptized and received into the Church on June 19th.

MULVANE, KANSAS. Brother J. F. Burton, who has served the Mulvane church for the past five years has informed us that he is closing his pastorate there this fall. He writes, "We are closing our pastorate of the Mulvane Brethren Church, September 1st, after 5 years of joyous service for the Lord, and shall be happy to consider a call to another pastorate." Brother Burton's address is 618 E. Main St., Mulvane, Kansas.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. The W. M. S. conducted their public worship service on June 24th. Speaker for the hour was Mrs. John J. Arnold, Retired missionary from Africa.

OUR COVER PICTURE

OUR FRONTIS this week carries the picture of the Young People's Choir of the Brethren Church at Manteca, California.

Brother C. Y. Gilmer, Pastor, who sent us the pictures says, "On Mother's Day evening, this choir presented a sacred concert dedicated to 'our mothers.'

"This group is very faithful as the Sunday evening choir, and always furnishes a special number. The Manteca Church greatly appreciates the accomplishments of its Young People's Choir."

PERSONNEL

Top Row: Tenors—Robert McAlary, David Larsen, Edwin Ferguson, James Ferguson; Basses—Larry Crom, Daryl Stewart, Paul Hallett, Edward Crom.

Bottom Row: Sopranos—Norma Jean Brooks, Laura McAlary, Donna Colvin (not pictured), Joyce Brooks; Mrs. Merle Johnson, directress; Altos—Shirley Johnson, Karen Larsen, Evelyn Behrens, Nancy Bianchi.

(COMING EVENTS LISTED ON PAGE 6)

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

The Editor's Pulpit

The Way God Says

THE ACCOUNT of Naaman, his leprosy and the prophet Elisha, as found in the 5th chapter of II Kings, is a good example of the precision by which God operates. God has a way to do things, and when we are willing, and seek His way, things always go smoother in our lives. Though many times we may think our ways and our plans are best, we must always remember that God knows best.

In the days of Elisha, the prophet, in Israel, great things were done by the Lord. The curing of Naaman, the leper, is one example. Naaman, according to the scripture, was a "great man" with the king of Syria. In fact, he was captain of the host of Syria. A pretty important man, holding great power in his hands. He was used to giving orders and having them followed to the very letter.

But there was one thing about which Naaman could do nothing. He was a leper. This disease would cost him all his power and all his great position. "If only there was something that could be done to cure this dread disease." But there was nothing. That is, until a small, Jewish maid, a servant of Naaman's wife, who had been taken captive by the Syrian hosts, spoke to her mistress. She said, "Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy." Perhaps had the little girl spoken directly to the great Naaman, she would have received no audience at all, and he would have laughed her to scorn. But, having spoken to Naaman's wife, she was heard, and the good woman was able to prevail on the will of her husband.

Arrangements were made, and Naaman appeared at the house of Elisha, the prophet. He appeared with his horses and chariot—what an impressive scene that must have been. Without doubt, Naaman expected the prophet to tell him to pay a huge sum in silver or gold, or to sacrifice a large number of animals. Not so. Elisha's word was that Naaman was to go to the river Jordan and wash in it seven times.

What a humiliating thing to do. The wrath of Naaman rose high. Here he had made this long and difficult journey to the prophet's house only to be told to go and wash in a dirty river seven times. How difficult it is sometimes for us to abide by the will of the Lord, when it means burying our pride, or doing some humble task in his service. The big, glamorous jobs, yes, but not the menial, unheralded duties. Yes, Naaman was wroth; he revolted and rebelled—and he still had his leprosy. He even started to leave, saying that in Syria they also had rivers which were as good, if not better than the Jordan.

It is to the benefit of Naaman that his servants were able to prevail on him to try the treatment prescribed by Elisha. At any rate, we note that Naaman then did exactly as Elisha had told him to do. He went to the river Jordan. He washed once, then twice, then three times. The anticipated progressive cure was not evident. Four, five and six times, and the leprosy was still there. We can't help but wonder how many times during the washings, Naaman started to leave the Jordan, convinced that he was just wasting his time. It is, however, to his credit that he dipped himself the full seven times. Then the amazing miracle took place. His flesh became like the flesh of a little child, "and he was clean."

Notice how God does things. When we are obedient to Him, doing things the way He says, He always works things out for the very best for us. Let ue abide in His will for our lives, for we know "that whosoever doeth the will of the Lord abideth forever." W. S. B.

BUILDING FOR ETERNITY

Dell G. Lemon

IN THE ERECTION of a building, the first thing that we need to do is to formulate our plans. We need to get the blue print completed, and then we need to make the foundation on which to build the building. The foundation should be strong and secure.

I remember that one of my old pastors, a man that had, previous to taking up the ministry, been a contractor for the erection of buildings, saying, that to have a sure foundation, it should be in the ground at least one third the height of the building to be erected on it. It seems to me I have seen more buildings wrecked by the foundations crumbling or settling, than in any other way; unless it would be old age or decay.

If it is necessary to have a good foundation for a temporal building, how much more is it a necessity, that, in building for eternity, that we build on a foundation that is sure and secure. A foundation of One on whom our anchors will hold in the storms of life, and when the clouds unfold their wings of strife. With the good foundation, our anchor will hold and firm remain.

We must choose Jesus to be the indestructable Stone; to be the Foundation on which we build whereby we reach our Heavenly home. We must not expect, as the ancients did, to build a ladder whose top may reach the heavens. We must build one that will hold fast to, and lift Christ up and glorify His Holy Name.

There is a piece of poetry that reads:

"We build the ladder by which we rise,
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies;
We mount the summit, round by round."

The first thing for us to do is to take Jesus as the Rock of our Salvation. The One that some builders refused, and as a result, their buildings did not survive the storms of life—"and great was the fall thereof." There is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12). We must own Him as Master and King of our lives. Let Him be the Redeemer of our souls. Let our souls be transformed into living souls by the New Birth.

Let us who claim to be His disciples, be baptized as He taught the disciples in Matthew 28:19. Christ is the One who said, "All power is given me in heaven and earth." He also said to His disciples, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you, and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

We remember Peter, on the day of Pentecost, when about three thousand souls were saved. People, on that day asked the question, "What must we do?" Peter answered them and said, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Believers and doers of the Word have the promise of the Holy Ghost for His indwelling of the temple of the believer, namely, his body. This body should be kept clean, a fit place for the Holy Spirit to dwell in. He is the one that leads us in all righteousness and uprightness. He is the revealer of the Scriptures, its prophecies and

teachings. He makes us marvel at the great marvelous truths contained therein.

In building for eternity, we must know that Christ died and bore your sin and mine to Calvary's cross; also the sins of the whole world, past, present and future. This Christ did, though He Himself was the Son of God, incarnate in human flesh. In His own life He had no sin or transgression, and on whom they used false witnesses, and tried to prove guilt, but couldn't. Of Him, Pilate tried to wash his hands, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person." We should note that no man had the power to take the life of our Lord; He laid it down so that our poor lost souls could be justified before God as though we also had no sins, and so our souls could be presented to God in His presence, as though we had no sin. He died that we through our faith in Him, might claim the promise of eternal life, which life is in the Son. This is the only plan that puts us on a clean slate, and which places our names in the Lamb's Book of Life. He casts our sins as far as the east is from the west; to remember them against us no more.

To further build for eternity, we must believe that Christ rose again, and that He became the first fruits of the Resurrection. We must also believe that we, after death, shall live again, as He says.

Here are some of the teachings of Christ, the very Son of God. He was born of the virgin Mary. As Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the whale, so shall the Son of man be three days and nights in the heart of the earth. This was in answer to certain of the scribes who had asked of Jesus a sign. Jesus reminds them of their nature—an evil and adulterous generation—seeking after a sign, saying, "There shall no sign be given to it but the sign of the prophet Jonas."

Furthermore, it will be well for us as builders for eternity to believe in the ascension of our Saviour: that He ascended into heaven. Before doing so, we remember, that it was said of Him that as ye have seen Him ascend into heaven, so in like manner shall He come again. Jesus also told His disciples, "I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also." Paul likewise notes (I Thess. 4:13-18): "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose

again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." We must watch and pray and keep looking for Him, entering not into temptations, but being strengthened by resisting them.

In building for eternity we must keep in mind that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. True religion and undefiled is to visit the widows and orphans in their affliction, and keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

It is well that all Christians should keep in mind these verses:

II Timothy 2:15: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

II Timothy 3:16, 17: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Jesus said unto His disciples: "Ye are the salt of the earth; if the salt have lost his savour, it is

good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

May we who have claimed his Sonship live worthy enough to be used for more than just carpets for men to walk on. Do we say: Thy word shall be a lamp unto my feet; a light to my pathway, alway?

Brethren, I close my message with these words, which are not my words, but the words of the Lord: He that hath the Son hath life; he that hath not the Son hath not life. And we know the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding that we know Him. We know Him who is truth, we are in Him who is truth, even in His Son, Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and the only way for building for eternity and eternal life.

Portis, Kansas.

COMING EVENTS

DISTRICT YOUTH CONFERENCE DURING PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Brethren Youth Board of the Pennsylvania District has planned a special Brethren Youth Conference to be held in the Morrellville Church of the Brethren while the District Conference is in session in Johnstown.

It has been planned to appeal to all young people of the District, to provide inspiration, fellowship and recreation. Talent outside the District will provide the leadership. There will be plenty of activity for all. We hope that many will avail themselves of the opportunity to work and play with young people from other churches in the District.

Perhaps some churches who in years past have sent only one or two delegates to District Conference will see fit to encourage their young people to attend. They might even provide a little cash to help pay their expenses.

Ida Kimmel.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT W. M. S. BANQUET RESERVATIONS

All persons interested in attending this banquet please notice that it will be held THURSDAY evening, at 5:30 P. M. D. S. T. in the Church of the Brethren, corner of Spring Street and Chandler Ave., Johnstown, Penna.

All reservations must be sent to Mrs. Floyd Benshoff, 148 Wilson St., Johnstown, Penna., before July 15!

Miriam M. Bird.

CENTRAL DISTRICT CAMPERS

SPECIAL NOTICE

Camp Blackhawk

July 2-8

Held at Spring Valley Bible Camp
Muscatine, Iowa

Ages 9—through High School

Fee: $13.00

Registration begins 3:30 P. M.
on July 2

ATTENTION: ALL SISTERHOOD GIRLS PLANNING ON ENTERING ASHLAND COLLEGE THIS FALL

HURRY before it's too late! Applications for the Sisterhood Myrtle Mae Snyder scholarship are being taken now. If there is a Sisterhood girl in your church who will be a freshman at Ashland College this fall urge her to apply. She should write to Carol Berkshire, Teegarden, Indiana, for information.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

GENERAL SECRETARY On the mend

INQUIRIES and hopes for a speedy recovery from well-wishers have been coming in to the office for the General Secretary who has been in the hospital and is now at home recuperating from an illness of several weeks. This unexpected sojourn at the hospital has postponed the Berkshires' trip to Florida, but we are hoping they will still be able to go. General Secretary Berkshire is recovering satisfactorily and we hope he will soon be back into routine activity. A speedy recovery to you, W. C. B.

SUPPORTING OUR MISSIONARIES

IF SOMEONE were to ask you, "Do you support our foreign missionaries," you would doubtless become indignant and maintain that you "most certainly do." Yet, supporting them includes more than helping to pay their salaries, transportation, etc. It includes supporting their spirits, morale, or whatever you choose to call that feeling of well-being and contentment so necessary to effective work and health. And what is the best way to do that? By writing to them regularly, of course!

Just recently one of our missionaries commented, in a letter to the office, that if our workers on the foreign field did not send letters home any more often than they received them from here, missionary news would indeed be scarce. This same person remarked that they get hungry for news of activities at home—the personal things not contained in newspapers and magazines.

Another of our foreign missionaries confessed to me, somewhat disturbed, that the church which supports him had not written him at **any time** while he was on the field—**nor had the pastor.**

Let's look at this situation! It's a bit like sending our children off to school, paying all their bills very religiously, but not writing them letters of love and encouragement, and expressions of satisfaction in their achievements. We would consider ourselves pretty poor parents to be so negligent. Then what of the way we treat our missionaries? They are farther away than most of our children ever go. They are doing work that we **can not** do or are **not willing** to do. They deserve everything we can give them—especially proof of our love and concern for them.

If we have been negligent in this regard, it is very likely only because of carelessness or thoughtlessness—not unconcern; but let's begin immediately to remedy the situation! Every church—and even every organization within the church—ought to write **each one** of our missionaries at least once a year; and if you want to be especially considerate, add this note in your letters, "This letter need not be answered individually." You can see the impossibility of our missionaries' answering each of our letters individually; but you would get much more news from the field in our missionary columns of the Evangelist and in letters to the churches; furthermore these news items would certainly reflect the spirits of happier missionaries.

Let's make letter-writing part of our support to our Christian ambassadors! This should be a "must" in our missionary program.

For your convenience, here are the addresses of our missionaries:*

Reverend & Mrs. Robert Bischof (now on furlough)
1014 Grant Street, Ashland, Ohio.

Reverend and Mrs. Robert Byler
Arcos 3099 (Nunez), Buenos Aires, Argentina, South America

Miss Veda Liskey
Waka, P. O. Biu and Jos, Nigeria, West Africa

Reverend and Mrs. Glenn Shank
Waka, P. O. Biu and Jos, Nigeria, West Africa.

*Quite soon more new missionaries will be going out. We will list them when they go. These addresses are listed also in the Annual number of the **Brethren Evangelist**, inside the back cover page.

A TALE OF TWO GOATS

(Written by Reverend E. L. Miller, Maurertown, Virginia

THE MAURERTOWN Daily Vacation Bible School closed Friday, June 15. A final program was given on Sunday, June 17. This was a cooperative affair, with the Maurertown Brethren and the Valley Pike Church of the Brethren working together.

As has been our custom, an offering is taken at each session, with the school designating some mission project to which the offering is to be applied. Other years it always went to some work of the Brethren Church; this year, being a joint affair, we looked for a project of mutual interest and found it in Nigeria. We asked the Brethren Service Center at New Windsor, Maryland, for help in the matter.

They said the Nigerian station needed a goat or more. We put this suggestion to the group, and a goat it was to be. The closing session offering took us into the clear, and they **"got our goat."**

But, wait a bit. On the Wednesday evening of the closing week of our school, the Maurertown Sr. W. M. S.

(Continued on Page 14)

PROGRAM OF THE SIXTY-NINTH PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

July 16th to 19th

Third Brethren Church

Johnstown, Pennsylvania

Conference Theme: "To Serve the Present Age"

Conference Text: "I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is yet day; the night cometh when no man can work." John 9:4.

PROGRAM

Monday Evening—July 16

7:45 Song Service
Devotions .....Rev. Ralph Mills
Special Music
8:15 Vice Moderator's Address ....Rev. Horace Huse

Tuesday Morning—July 17

8:30 Simultaneous Sessions:
Ministerium .....Balcony Room, Right
Woman's Missionary Society .....Sanctuary
Laymen's Organization..Basement Auditorium
Sisterhood of Mary and Martha
Church of the Brethren
Boys' Brotherhood ..Church of the Brethren
9:30 Devotions .....Lavelle Horner
Address of Welcome .....Floyd Benshoff
Response for Ministerial Delegates
Rev. David Rambsel
Response for Lay Delegates ..Charles Moredock
10:00 Moderator's Address ..Rev. Lyle Lichtenberger
10:40 Special Music
Report of Credential Committee
Election of Committee on Committees
11:15 Bible Study.....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
12:00 Noon Adjournment

Tuesday Afternoon

1:30 Song Service
Prayer .....George A. Leidy
1:40 District Mission Board Session
Church Extension .....Rev. Ralph Mills
Mission Church Support ..Harry L. Berkshire
2:10 General Mission Board Session
Rev. W. C. Berkshire
2:40 Ashland College Session....Dr. Glenn L. Clayton
3:00 Publication Board Session
Rev. Robert L. Hoffman

Tuesday Evening

7:30 Song Service
Devotions .....Rev. W. B. Brant
Special Music
8:00 Message: "Time Considered and Improved"
Rev. Cecil Bolton

CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Moderator .....Lyle Lichtenberger
Vice Moderator .....Horace Huse
Secretary .....Mrs. Elmer M. Keck
Assistant Secretary ..... Mrs. Cecil Bolton, Jr.
Treasurer .....John H. Glessner
Statistician .....Ida Kimmel
Conference Guest Speaker ....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
Pastor Washington, D. C. Brethren Church
Conference Music Director .....Mrs. Merle Stutzman

Wednesday Morning—July 18

8:30 Simultaneous Sessions
Group Listings under Tuesday
9:30 Song Service
Devotions .....Leroy Boyer
Business Session
Minutes of the Secretary
Report of Committees
Credential Committee
Committee on Committees,
Report and Election
Ministerial Examining Board
Ashland College Trustees
Sunday School Board
Brethren Youth Board
Brethren Training Camp Committees
District Mission Board
Other Committees
11:15 Song Service
Bible Study .....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
12:00 Noon Adjournment—Sisterhood Luncheon

Wednesday Afternoon

1:30 Song Service
Prayer .....Mrs. Walter C. Wertz
1:40 Fraternal Relations Address
Rev. D. Alfred Replogle
Pastor, Roxbury Church of the Brethren, Johnstown
2:00 District Sunday School Board Session
2:20 National Sunday School Association Session
Dr. Joseph R. Shultz
2:40 District Brethren Youth Board Session
Recognition of Youth Organizations
5:30 Brethren Youth Banquet—Church of the Brethren

Wednesday Evening—Youth Worship Service

7:30 Song Service .....Bill Dively, Song Leader
Devotions ....1956-57 Brethren Youth President
Play: "For This Cause"
Johnstown Third Brethren Youth
8:00 Message .....Rev. Earle Fike
Pastor, Meyersdale Church of the Brethren
9:00 Camp Juniata Round-up..Walter Wertz in charge

Thursday Morning—July 19

8:30 Simultaneous Sessions
Listing under Tuesday Morning
9:30 Song Service
Devotions .....Rev. W. D. Keeling
Business Session
Minutes of the Secretary
Reports of Committees
Credential Committee
Resolutions Committee
Auditing Committee
Committee on Moderator's Address
Election of 1956-57 Conference Officers
Unfinished Business
New Business
Final Reading of the Minutes
11:15 Song Service
Bible Study .....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
12:00 Noon Adjournment

DUES

The Delegate Fee shall be one dollar for each Lay Delegate. Each congregation shall pay annually to Conference the full amount of dues for the delegates to which it is entitled, whether attending Conference or not. Payment of these dues is a prerequisite to the congregation's membership in this Conference. Credentials will not be accepted from churches failing to fill out and return statistical blanks.

Thursday Afternoon

1:30 Song Service
Prayer .....Mrs. Horace Huse
1:40 Laymen's Session
Edmund Rowland, Guest Speaker
2:00 Panel Discussion .....Ministerial Association
"Christian Stewardship and Church Finance"
2:45 Woman's Missionary Society Public Service
5:30 Woman's Missionary Society Banquet
Church of the Brethren
Bob and Bea Bischof, Guest Speakers

Thursday Evening

7:30 Song Service
Devotions .....Rev. N. V. Leatherman
Installation of 1956-57 Conference Officers
Special Music
8:00 Message .....Rev. Robert Bischof

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY PROGRAM

Theme: "Serving the Lord—Let God Speak Through Me"

Theme Hymn: "In the Service of the King"

Pianists .....Mrs. John Golby, Mrs. Charles Dysert
Song Leader .....Mrs. Floyd Benshoff

Tuesday Morning—8:30

Prelude .....Johnstown Third W. M. S.
Theme Hymn .....“In the Service of the King”
Devotions .....Berlin Sr. W. M. S.
Talk: "God Speaks Through S. S. Camp Work"
Mrs. Walter Wertz
Special Music .....Johnstown Second W. M. S.
Business: Report of Secretary-Treasurer
Report of President
W. M. S. Benediction

Wednesday Morning—8:30

Prelude .....Johnstown Third W. M. S.
Theme Hymn .....“In the Service of the King”
Special Music .....Pleasant View W. M. S.
Business .....Election of Officers
Roll Call of Societies
Offering for District Project:
Gift toward the Chapel at Waka
Hymn and W. M. S. Benediction

(Program Continued in Next Page)

Thursday Morning—8:30

Prelude .....Johnstown Third W. M. S.
Theme Hymn .....“In the Service of the King”
Devotions .....Masontown W. M. S.
Special Music .....Vinco W. M. S., Group I
Talk: “God Speaks Through the Public School Teacher” Mrs. Elmer Keck
Special Music .....Wayne Heights W. M. S.
Business....Report of President, Reports of Committees
Hymn and W. M. S. Benediction

Thursday Afternoon—2:50

Organ-Piano Prelude .....Johnstown Third W. M. S.
Memorial Service .....Johnstown Second W. M. S.
Installation of W. M. S. and S. M. M. Officers
Offering for General Treasure
Closing Prayer .....Brush Valley W. M. S.

Thursday Evening—5:30

W. M. S. Banquet—Church of the Brethren, Spring St. at Chandler Ave.
Guest Speakers: Bob and Bea Bischof, Missionaries on furlough from Nigeria

LAYMEN'S PROGRAM

Theme: “Come Out and Meet the Brethren”

Text: “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.” Psalm 1:1.

Tuesday Morning—8:30

Call to Worship
Hymn .....“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”
Devotions .....Berlin Laymen
Topic: “In Evangelism” .....Joseph J. Rehn, Speaker
Business .....John Golby presiding
Benediction

Wednesday Morning—8:30

Call to Worship
Hymn .....“Am I a Soldier of the Cross?”
Devotions .....Vinco Laymen
Topic: “In Revival” .....Jesse B. Hileman, Speaker
Business .....Election of Officers
Benediction

Thursday Morning—8:30

Call to Worship
Hymn .....“Stand Up For Jesus”
Devotions .....Johnstown Second Laymen
Topic .....Speaker to be supplied
Business
Hymn .....“Follow the Gleam”
Benediction

Thursday Afternoon—1:40

Call to Worship
Hymn .....“Are Ye Able, Said the Master?”
Devotions .....Jones Mills Laymen
Guest Speaker .....Edmund Rowland
Hymn .....“As a Volunteer”
Benediction

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION PROGRAM

Tuesday Morning—8:30

Devotions .....Rev. Elmer Keck
Inspirational Message .....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith

Wednesday Morning—8:30

Devotions .....Rev. David Rambsel
Inspirational Message .....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith

Thursday Morning—8:30

Devotions .....Rev. Paul Naff
Inspirational Message .....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith

BRETHREN YOUTH CONFERENCE

Monday Evening—July 16

7:45 Combined Worship Service
Rev. Horace Huse, Speaker

Tuesday Morning—July 17

8:30 Simultaneous Youth Sessions
Church of the Brethren
9:30 Singspiration .....Phil and Jeanne Lersch
10:00 “The Glory of Service” ..Phil and Jeanne Lersch
10:30 “The Glory of Service in Africa”
Bob and Bea Bischof
11:15 Bible Lecture to Combined Conferences
Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith

Tuesday Afternoon

2:00 Recreation:
Hike to Johnstown TV Tower; Refreshments

Tuesday Evening

7:30 Combined Worship Service
Rev. Cecil Bolton, Speaker
9:00 Camp Fire at the Howards in Armagh

Wednesday Morning—July 18

8:30 Simultaneous Youth Sessions
Church of the Brethren
9:30 Singspiration .....Phil and Jeanne Lersch
10:00 Business Session .....Phil Lersch in charge
Election of Officers
Discussion of National Youth Work and Project
11:15 Bible Lecture to Combined Conferences
Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
12:00 Sisterhood Luncheon for all Girls and Patronesses

Wednesday Afternoon

1:30 Planned Recreation in Church of the Brethren
2:40 Brethren Youth Board Session in District Conference Program
Recognition of Youth Organizations
5:30 Brethren Youth Banquet ..Church of the Brethren

Wednesday Evening

7:30 Brethren Youth in charge of Combined Worship Service
Song Service .....Bill Dively, Song Leader
Devotions .....1956-57 Brethren Youth President
Play: “For This Cause”
Johnstown Third Brethren Youth
8:00 Message .....Rev. Earle Fike
Pastor, Meyersdale Church of the Brethren
9:00 Camp Juniata Round-up ..Walter Wertz in charge

Thursday Morning—July 19

8:30 Simultaneous Youth Sessions
Church of the Brethren
9:30 Singspiration .....Phil and Jeanne Lersch
10:00 Talk on Evangelism.....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
10:30 “The Joy of Service” ..The Lerschs and Bischof
11:15 Bible Lecture to Combined Conferences
Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith

Thursday Afternoon

2:00 Recreation: Swimming Party
2:45 Installation of Sisterhood Officers in W. M. S. Public Service

Thursday Evening

7:30 Combined Worship Service
Rev. Robert Bischof, Speaker

SISTERHOOD OF MARY AND MARTHA PROGRAM

Theme: "After Fifty Years, What?"

Tuesday Morning—8:30

Opening Hymn
Devotions ..... Wayne Heights S. M. M.
Special Music ..... Berlin Sr. S. M. M.
Inspirational Talk ..... Mrs. J. Ray Klingensmith
Closing Hymn
Business
Benediction

Wednesday Morning—8:30

Opening Hymn
Devotions ..... Berlin Jr. S. M. M.
Special Music ..... Vinco Sr. S. M. M.
Inspirational Talk ..... Mrs. J. Ray Klingensmith
Closing Hymn
Business ..... Election of Officers
Benediction

Wednesday Noon—Sisterhood Luncheon

Guest Speaker ..... Mrs. Robert Bischof

Thursday Morning—8:30

Opening Hymn
Devotions ..... Brush Valley S. M. M.
Special Music ..... Pittsburgh S. M. M.
Inspirational Talk ..... Mrs. J. Ray Klingensmith
Closing Hymn
Business
Benediction

BOYS' BROTHERHOOD PROGRAM

Theme: "Stewards of Christ"

Tuesday Morning—8:30

Devotions ..... Johnstown Third Brotherhood
Topic: "Stewards of Time" ..... Berlin Brotherhood

Wednesday Morning—8:30

Devotions ..... Vinco Brotherhood
Topic: "Stewards of Talents". Wayne Heights Brotherhood

Thursday Morning—8:30

Devotions ..... Masontown Brotherhood
Topic: "Stewards of Treasure".. Meyersdale Brotherhood
Election of Officers

OFFICERS OF AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS

Woman's Missionary Society

President ..... Miss Miriam Bird
Vice President ..... Mrs. George A. Leidy
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Mrs. Ruth Barkhymer

Laymen's Organization

President ..... John Golby
Vice President ..... Charles Moredock
Secretary ..... Robert Blough
Treasurer ..... John H. Glessner

Sisterhood of Mary and Martha

President ..... Ada Belle Hornig
Vice President ..... Nadine Golby
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Betty Meyers
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer ..... Grace Keck
Patroness ..... Mrs. Charles Chepes
Asst. Patroness ..... Margaret Rorabaugh

Boys' Brotherhood

President ..... Kenneth Ohler
Vice President ..... Robert C. Blough
Secretary ..... Nelson Hess
Asst. Secretary ..... Wayne Bridegum
Treasurer ..... Eugene Swindell

Ministerial Association

President ..... Rev. Elmer M. Keck
Vice President ..... Rev. Lyle Lichtenberger
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Rev. Horace Huse

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Lyle Lichtenberger, Horace Huse, E. M. Riddle, Lavelle Horner, Leroy Boyer

Credential Committee

Horace Huse, George J. King, Judson Faust

Rules and Organization Committee

1956—Elmer M. Keck; 1957—William D. Keeling; 1958—Floyd S. Benshoff

Ministerial Examining Board

1956—Horace Huse; 1957—N. V. Leatherman; 1958—W. B. Brant

District Mission Board

1956—Harry L. Berkshire, Floyd S. Benshoff; 1957—George A. Leidy, Ralph E. Mills; 1958—John Golby, Fred W. Brant

District Sunday School Board

1956—Walter C. Wertz; 1957—Geneva Altfather; 1958—Ralph Mills; 1959—W. B. Brant; 1960—Lucetta Hibbs

District Brethren Youth Board

1956—Charles Berkshire, Lyle Lichtenberger; 1957—W. B. Brant, Ida Kimmel; Members at Large—Mrs. Charles Chepes, Joe Glessner

Boys' Brotherhood Board

1956—Charles Berkshire; 1957—Horace Huse, Jacob Mackall; 1958—Fred W. Brant, Robert N. Blough

Brethren Training Center Committee

Site: Fred Brant, Walter Wertz, Floyd Hibbs
Finance: Harry L. Berkshire, John Golby, J. G. Harkcom

Resolutions Committee

Mrs. Leona Wallace, Vera Laughlin, John Blocher

Auditing Committee

1956—Floyd Hibbs; 1957—Ida Kimmel; 1958—Mrs. George A. Leidy

Committee on Moderator's Address

Paul Naff, Catherine Benshoff, Mrs. Cecil Bolton, Jr.

Ashland College Trustees

1957—John A. Rishel; 1958—Floyd Benshoff: 1959—?

General Conference Executive Committee

Cecil Bolton, Jr., B. F. Buzzard

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE TIME IS BRIEF

Because the longest life is brief,
I must be swift in keeping
The little trysts with kindliness
Before the last long sleeping.

I must be swift in reaching out
To those whose hearts are yearning;
Oh, swift indeed to love them much
Before the road's last turning.

I must be quick to give the days
My earnest, wise endeavor.
Some day I know a door will close,
And shut me in forever.

Before that great, strange silence falls,
I surely must be saying
The words that I have failed to say—
The prayers I should be praying.

—Grace Noll Crowell.

"FOR WHAT IS YOUR LIFE" (James 4:14)? The Bible is a Book of pointed questions, such as, "Where art thou" (Gen. 3:9)? "Where is . . . thy brother" (Gen. 4:9)? "Is not the land before thee" (Gen. 13:8, 9)? "What is thy name" (Gen. 32:27)? "What is that in thine hand" (Exodus 4:2)? "Have not I commanded thee (Joshua 1:9)? God asked these questions, and even asked one question of Himself (Gen. 18:17, 18).

Other sermonic questions stated by various individuals are: Judges 5:16; 6:15, 16; I Sam. 12:3; 2 Sam. 3:33; I Kings 18:21; Neh. 2:2; Job 1:8, 9); Matt. 2:2; 27:22; 26:21, 22; Mark 16:1, 3; Acts 16:30. These are all heart searching questions.

People may have doubts and disputations about many things (Acts 28:24, 25; 17:2-5; John 12:28, 29). And some may have faulty agreements (Isaiah 28:18; John 9:22; Acts 5:9). There is a marvelous agreement in the Holy Trinity (1 John 5:7, 8). There is an agreement among the righteous (Matt. 18:19).

But we will all have to agree with Job that life is SHORT (Job 9:25, 26); with Moses that life "is soon cut off" (Psalm 90:9, 10); with David that our days are as a hand's breadth (Psalm 39:5, 6); with Hezekiah that sickness impairs our vitality (Isaiah 38:12); with Isaiah that all flesh passes away as surely as does the grass of the field (Isaiah 40:6, 7).

In lieu of the uncertainty, the brevity of life, what are we to do (Eccles. 9:10)? "DON'T WAIT FOR TOMORROW!"

"He was going to be all that a mortal could be
Tomorrow.
No one should be kinder or braver than he
Tomorrow.

A friend who was troubled and weary he knew
Who'd be glad of a lift—and who needed it, too;
On him he would call and see what he could do
Tomorrow.

"Each morning he stacked up the letters he'd writ
Tomorrow.
And thought of the folk he would fill with delight
Tomorrow.
It was too bad, indeed, he was busy today,
And hadn't a minute to stop on his way;
'More time I will have to give others,' he'd say,
'Tomorrow.'

"The greatest of workers this man would have been
Tomorrow.
The world would have known him had he ever seen
Tomorrow.
But the fact is, he died and he faded from view,
And all that he left here, when living was through,
Was a mountain of things he intended to do
Tomorrow!"

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for July 8, 1956

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-3; 2:1-4; 6:1-3

"GOD . . . HATH . . . SPOKEN unto us!" So says th writer of Hebrews (1:1). No more wonderful word could be heard than these! Those who are Deists pain a grotesque picture of God as one who created man an then left him to his own devices. This is not so! Go has revealed Himself to mankind. He makes known Hi will to them.

If it be true that "God . . hath . . . spoken unto us, in what manner and at what time hath He done so? "I many and various ways God spake of old to our father by the prophets" (Heb. 1:1—R. S. V.) Repeatedly, i the Old Testament, the authoritative voice of God i heard as He speaks to man: "Thus saith the Lord."

How privileged the Children of Israel were to hav had in their midst such outstanding prophets as Isaiah Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, etc. These men were God representatives to man. The lives of the people wer blessed by the presence of God's prophets, for throug them God made known His will to His people.

This is not, however, the only way in which God ha spoken to man. God had a more personal way in whic to reveal Himself to His people. "But in these last day He has spoken to us by a Son, whom He appointed th heir of all things, through whom also He created th world" (vs. 2—R. S. V.).

With these words the writer of Hebrews introduce Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God. Notic

what he says of Christ—that which cannot be said of any other person:

1. He is the lawful owner of everything—"Heir of all things" (vs. 2).
2. He is the Creator of the universe—"By whom also He made the worlds" (vs. 2).
3. He is the reflection of God's Glory "Who being the brightness of His (God's) glory" (v. 3).
4. He perfectly represents God the Father—"Who being the . . . express image of His (God's) person" (vs. 3).
5. He upholds the universe by His mighty word—"Who . . . upholding all things by the word of His power" (vs. 3).
6. He alone is able to purge man from his sins—"He . . . himself purged our sins" (vs. 3).
7. He has the prerogative of sitting at the right hand of God the Father—"He . . . sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high" (vs. 3).

The right concept of Jesus Christ—the firm belief that He is the Divine Son of God—is vital to Christian experience. This is why the writer of Hebrews, after so forcibly presenting Jesus as God's Son, gives this solemn warning: "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard . . . For . . . how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation" (2:1, 3).

If the truth of the Deity of Jesus Christ is neglected, and the truth that He died for the sins of mankind is not embraced, then indeed there is no possible escape for us! "For," Jesus says, "if ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24).

"Jesus the Savior is more than a man,
This wonderful Savior of mine;
He has accomplished what no one else can,
I know that He is divine!

I know that He is divine,
This wonderful Savior of mine;
Dying to save me, Salvation He gave me—
I know that He is divine."

—Haldor Lillenas.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

"I ONCE HEARD somebody say that you can't tell whether a parent has been a success or a failure until you find out what happens to the grandchildren."—Richard L. Strout. Here is a challenge to today's parents that cannot be overlooked or slighted. Mr. Strout is telling us that we cannot live our lives unto ourselves. There is a child, or grandchild, or nephew, or niece that is depending upon you for interest, leadership, and spiritual guidance so that his life might be of the utmost usefulness and value when he becomes mature and is called upon to lead others.

What you are today is a direct reflection, in most cases, upon the lives of your parents and grandparents and their devotion in seeing that you were taught the ways of the Lord. If they were insincere and unconcerned, you have had an uphill battle in living your life as God would have you live it. You have probably received help from someone else if it was lacking in the homelife of your youth.

So much for the past. Take a moment to look at the future. Just as you are the leaders of the Brethren Church today, your children will be leading tomorrow. They will fill your shoes right in the same place you put them down today. If you are walking and working in the interest of Jesus Christ and His Church, that is where your Brethren Youth will walk. But if you choose to dwell outside, that is where your descendants will abide. You may push your chest out and boast of the successful life that you call your own, but the next time you exhale, which will bring deflation, ask yourself, "What am I doing to train up my child in the way he should go?" You won't know the answer until your grandchild grows up and then you might wish you had done more with Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Brethren Youth Crusaders and Brethren young people everywhere.

INDIANA CONFERENCE

Two days spent at the Indiana Conference acquainted your youth director with many of those Brethren and offered visiting time with old friends in that district. An evening campfire, a brotherhood session, and an Indiana Brethren Youth Rally provided opportunity for learning to know these young people and for bringing greetings from the national office. It is good to see and worship with the people for whom my job as director is established.

Virgil Meyer, president of the National Youth Board, gave a whole morning to orient me further in my new work and to discuss future plans of Brethren Youth. On a cottage porch along Lake Shipshewana we mapped out where Brethren Youth is going. Two brains working together accomplishes more than a solo effort especially when the one is familiar with the policies and objectives of the organization. The district conference, the counseling, plus wonderful hospitality shown by the New Paris pastor and his wife made the trip truly enjoyable.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The biggest week in the Brethren Youth calendar approaches quickly. We can look forward eagerly to great inspiration during this week—August 13 through 19. Our own denomination offers many men of no mean stature both physically and spiritually. One of these is the conference youth speaker, Dr. J. Garber Drushal, professor of speech at Wooster College and an important member of the Smithville Brethren Church, will challenge the young people every day with chapel and vesper messages. This man not only has something to say. He knows how to say it in a way that is easy to listen to. You won't want to miss hearing him.

A little time yet remains for working toward the national project. This year Brethren Youth has a chance to help with its own program. The goal is $6500 for the national youth work. You all know of the money that must go into the running of an organization on a national

scale. Here is an opportunity for the young people to show that they are sold on their own program. Don't let your young people miss this opportunity. It is good for them to share the load. They will then appreciate their organization more.

Brethren Youth this year is striving more for a feeling of unity and responsibility to the home churches among those who attend National Conference. To accomplish this purpose the national board has required all young people to present credentials for registration. These credentials must be signed by their pastor, a deacan, and their youth advisor. There is no limit to the number of delegates each church may send. All pastors will be receiving the credentials and instructions in the near future.

CRUSADERS ARE STILL ON JOB

Good reports are coming in about the Bible School work of Carol Berkshire, Carol Johnson and Betty Meyers in Goshen, Indiana from June 11-24. Carol Berkshire and Carol Johnson traveled from Goshen to Newark, Ohio and are conducting a school there from June 25 to July 8. Betty Meyers went back to Pennsylvania to serve as a counsellor at Camp Juniata. Joann Rummell, Susan Miller, and Bonnie Swihart have been working at Lost Creek from June 18 to 30. Beverly Summy from Warsaw will join them as they move to Krypton for two weeks of work and Bible School from June 30 to July 15. Teaching youngsters is a challenge and blessing to all who find time to Crusade.

DIRECTOR'S TRAVELS

June 24, 25	Camp Juniata
June 26	Camp Zion
June 27-30	Ashland in home office
July 1	Bryan, Ohio—Missionary Public Service
July 2-9	Camp Blackhawk, Muscatine, Iowa

MORE BRETHREN KNOW ABOUT THE FISH BOWL EVERY WEEK

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

(Continued from Page 7)

met, and hearing of the Daily Vacation Bible School project, they matched it, and a second goat will be on the way soon. They "got our two goats."

Once more, at the closing session of the school it was suggested that we give our goat a name—this carried unanimously. Since both of our churches are located in Shenandoah County and in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, also along the gracefully meandering Shenandoah River, the suggestion was made that we request it (the goat) be named Shenandoah Nanny. So a request is being sent with our check that Mrs. Goat be so tagged. (By the way, both checks are on the way to New Windsor); so—we say, Happy Milking, you Nigerians! Lots of pure and safe milk for all hands.

The Maurertown—Valley Pike Daily Vacation Bible School Per E. L. M.

Wedding Announcement

KECK-GRIPPO. Miss Grace Keck, daughter of Elder and Mrs. Elmer M. Keck, Jones Mills, Pa., became the bride of Waddo Grippo, Tarrs, Pa., in a double ring ceremony in the Valley Brethren church, Sunday, June 17, 1956 at 4:30 P. M. The ceremony was solemnized by the bride's father. Mr. Ralph Mead, of Emmetsberg, Iowa, an uncle of the bride, was the Soloist with Mrs. John Keck of Ashland, Ohio, as pianist. The bride was given in marriage by her older brother John Keck. The reception was at the new Community Center building which would seat about 500 people. About 250 guests were present. They are living at 328½ College Ave., Ashland, Ohio.

Elmer M. Keck, Pastor.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

THE SOIL, THE SEED, THE SOWER

"And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundred-fold." Luke 8:8.

IN THIS PARABLE of the Master there is only one sower, one kind of seed, but there were four conditions of soil. The important thing about the whole story is that the seed shall be sown. And there is no discount on the seed. The seed is pointed out—the Word of God. And one trouble has too often been that leaders are tempted to "sow" their personal opinions. Their untested ideas and mere human philosophies instead of the eternal Word of God. God has not asked for human judgment on the "Seed of the Word." He has bid us SOW IT, sow IT.

Those in whose hearts the seed has been sown are to furnish it good soil and to cultivate it. If the seed is "The Word of God" and we are to cultivate the soil, then how do we go about the cultivation? I believe there are about three ways we may cultivate the seed or the Word of God:

1. By hiding God's Word in our hearts that we "might not sin against thee." If we do not have the personal experience of the power of the seed to germinate and grow and increase, how can we recommend its use to others? What joy will be in recommending such seed if we have never known the joy of its power to propagate itself in fertile soil? And the Psalmist understood the purpose of the seed in the heart, that he might not sin against God.

2. "Meditate therein day and night." Constant companionship with the "Word" will enlighten our minds, deepen our understanding, and strengthen our character.

3. And we cultivate the seed when we "observe to do according to all that is written therein."

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

"Be strong and of good courage; Be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord, thy God is with thee whither soever thou goest." Joshua 1:9.

JOSHUA, taking over the work of Moses after his death, must have been filled with doubts and fears as he looked about him, realizing that all these people and their problems were now his responsibility.

Then God, having given the command to go forth, spoke to Joshua telling him that He would be with him, just as He had been with Moses, that He "would not fail nor forsake him."

Three times God spoke these words, "Be strong and of good courage," the third time adding, "the Lord, thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." So Joshua took courage and, in the strength and power of God went forth and accomplished great things for his people and his God.

As I look about me at the towering peaks of the Canadian Rockies in Jasper Park where we are located for the present, they bring to mind a picture of some of the strong men of God of yesterday, and today and I am reminded of the words of the Psalmist when he said, "I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence cometh my strength. My help cometh from the Lord, who made Heaven and Earth." Psalm 121:1, 2.

Those great masses of rock reaching up into the sky have stood for centuries. They have been buffeted by storms and winter winds; snow and ice have laid heavy on them, and they are scarred and ridged by the elements, yet, they speak to one of serenity and peace.

As we lift our eyes and our hearts up and up, to their summits, we are humbled and realize how very much we need the strength and courage that comes only from God. We are drawn close to the Creator, theirs and ours, and from the One who brought them and us into being, we find the help we need. Yes, it is from the Creator, not from creation that we receive power, for God will still be in His Heaven, guiding the affairs of men, when those great mountains have crumbled to dust.

Thinking of how these men of God leaned on Him in their need and how even our Lord and Saviour, though Himself Divine, went into the mountains many times to be alone with His Father, to talk with Him and to receive renewed strength and power to go on with His work, we can be sure that we need that help much, much more today.

If Joshua and David and all those others, leaned on God in their trying hours, surely man today in his bewilderment, doubt and fear at all the frightening events occurring around about him, need to put his trust in that same God, knowing that He will help to solve the problems and bear the burdens.

Yet it seems man has come to depend all too much on his own power, because of his great creative ability, forgetting that all his talents are gifts from God, and becoming indifferent to the Giver.

Knowing the need today, just as in ages past for men of simple courage, strength and faith to carry out Christ's command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel," our thoughts turn to the group of men who make up our Mission Board. We honor these men and their departed president, Rev. Willis E. Ronk, as men of vision who have heard the words, "Be strong and of good courage." Surely these are men with the strength like the mountains and with the power from God prompting them to take advantage of the doors open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. These are men "strong in the Lord" as Joshua and David were. May we heed the voice of God as they have, lending our full support, materially and spiritually, to the noble efforts of these Joshuas, as they seek to open new fields for Christ.

"Is this the time, O Church of Christ, to sound retreat
Is this the time to halt, when all around
Horizons lift, new destinies confront?
No! rather strengthen stakes and lengthen cords,
Enlarge thy plans and gifts, O Thou Elect;
And to thy Kingdom come for such a time.
The earth with all its fullness is the Lord's,
Great things attempt for Him, great things expect."

Let us, "Be strong in the Lord and in the Power of His Might."

Mrs. Harry R. LaRue,
Meyersdale, Pa.

News From Our Churches

ROANOKE, INDIANA

I thought I might send in some more news that might be of interest to the brotherhood.

First, the church in a special business meeting of May 22, 1956, voted to go full time. This was a big step as it has been many years since the church has been able to pay a full time pastor. We are praying that the step may be a means of winning many souls to Him.

On Friday June 22, our church was host to the Bible School program. The auditorium was again filled to capacity. I might note that the three churches co-operate in a union Bible School here in Roanoke.

Then on Sunday July 1, we are anticipating a great day. This day has been set for the writer's ordination. We extend a welcome to all who might be interested in attending a service of this kind.

We ask all who read to be in prayer with us, that we might become a great soul winning plant in the Kingdom of God.

Paul D. Tinkel.

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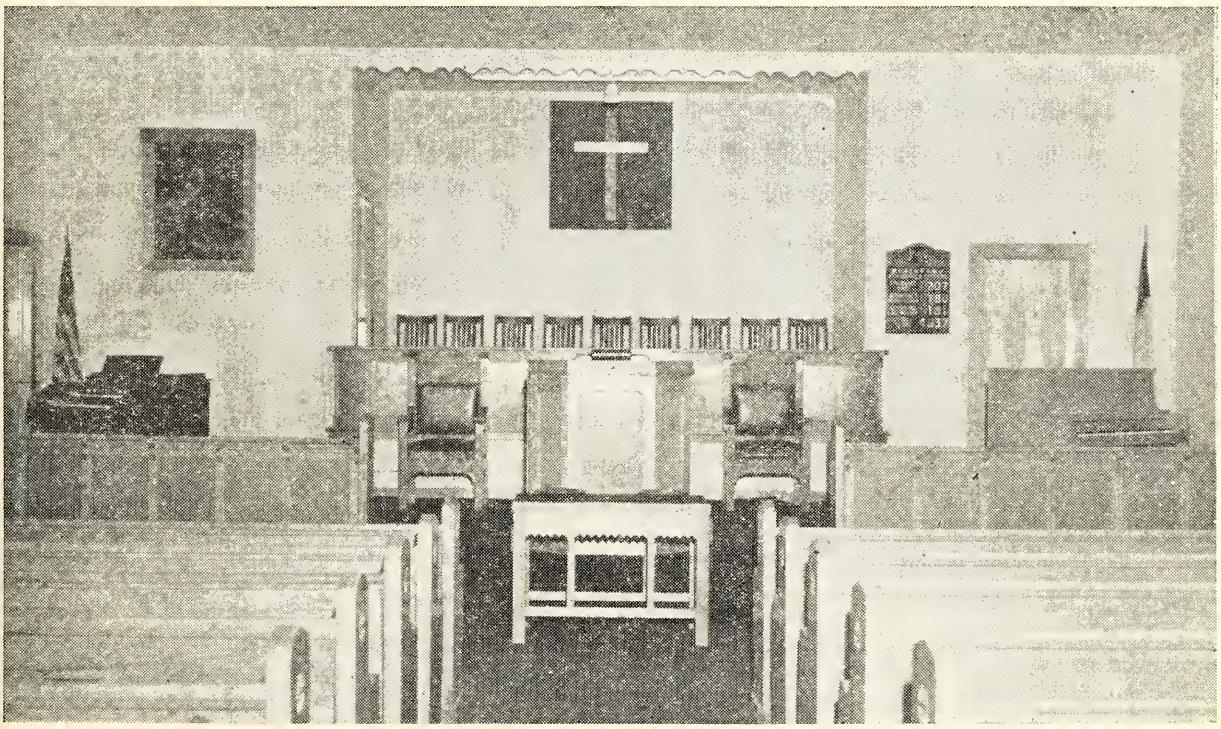

View of Remodeled Sanctuary at Bryan

(Story on Page Ten)

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

OAK HILL, W. VA. The Oak Hill Church, their pastor, Brother Milton M. Robinson, and choir, were on station WOAY-TV for a program of words and music, Sunday afternoon, June 17th.

Baptismal services were scheduled as a part of the worship service the evening of June 24th.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. The W. M. S., in their public service the morning of June 10th, presented Mrs. Eugene J. Beekley as guest speaker. Mrs. Beekley reviewed the W. M. S. Mission Study Book.

Guest speaker on May 27th was Brother Milton M. Robinson, pastor of our Oak Hill, W. Va., church, who was vacationing in Florida.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Brother N. Victor Leatherman reports that 72 boys and girls, with 13 teachers and helpers, attended their recent Bible School.

Five were baptized the evening of June 21st at Wayne Heights.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. The Laymen conducted their public program on July 1st. Charles Saint was the speaker.

GRATIS, OHIO. We note that Brother M. W. Dodds has tendered his resignation as pastor to the Gratis Church, effective October 1st.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Brother Robert Hoffman reports their average S. S. attendance for the month of June as 183; noting that this was 22 higher than the average last year.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. The Laymen's public service was held the evening of June 17th, with National Laymen's Organization President, H. D. "Bud" Hunter as the speaker.

FLORA, INDIANA. Brother Virgil E. Meyer, pastor of our Nappanee church, was the guest speaker in the Flora Union Service, Sunday evening, July 1st, in the Flora Baptist Church.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Baptismal services were held in the Lanark church the evening of June 28th.

COMING EVENTS

DISTRICT YOUTH CONFERENCE DURING PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Brethren Youth Board of the Pennsylvania District has planned a special Brethren Youth Conference to be held in the Morrellville Church of the Brethren while the District Conference is in session in Johnstown.

It has been planned to appeal to all young people of the District, to provide inspiration, fellowship and recreation. Talent outside the District will provide the leadership. There will be plenty of activity for all. We hope that many will avail themselves of the opportunity to work and play with young people from other churches in the District.

Perhaps some churches who in years past have sent only one or two delegates to District Conference will see fit to encourage their young people to attend. They might even provide a little cash to help pay their expenses.

Ida Kimmel.

PASTOR NEEDED

The Brethren Church of Gratis, Ohio, desires to contact anyone interested in the pastorate of this Church.

Write to:

Mrs. Roy M. Brubaker, Church Secretary,
R. R. 2,
West Alexandria, Ohio

PASTORATE OPEN

Since our Pastor, Rev. J. F. Burton, will be leaving the pastorate here at Mulvane, Kansas on September 1, 1956 the Mulvane Brethren Church will be in need of a pastor at that time. Any Brethren Minister interested in coming to Mulvane is invited to communicate with,

Dwight E. Bishard, Corresponding Secretary,
643 E. Mulvane St.,
Mulvane, Kansas.

The Editor's Pulpit

In All Points

JESUS, AFTER HE HAD BEEN baptized, was led of the Spirit into the wilderness. There for forty days, He went without food. Following this, we are told that He was tempted of the devil. Being hungry, the devil teased Christ with the suggestion that if He were really the Son of God, He could change the stones of the desert into bread. The Lord met this temptation successfully, by quoting from the Word of God, saying, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Matthew then records that the devil and Jesus went then to Jerusalem and thus to the very top of the temple roof. The devil suggested that our Lord display His power by jumping from that high position down to the street. Here, Jesus could have had the synthetic notice and praise of the citizens—like that which accompanies anyone today who is able to do spectacular or "different things." Christ says, "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God."

The third and final temptation greeted our Lord as the devil showed Him all the kingdoms of this world, telling Him that for worshipping him, the devil, Christ could have them all. Again our Lord successfully meets temptation by telling the devil that only the Lord God shall be worshipped and served.

For Christians today to successfully meet temptations, it is essential that we have a basic understanding of these temptations of Jesus.

John, in his writings in the first of his letters (2:15, 16) classifies all types and forms of temptation in three categories, just as the wilderness temptations of our Lord fall into three classifications. John tells us that there are temptations: 1. the lust of the flesh, 2. the lust of the eye, 3. the pride of life.

The lust of the flesh includes the sins people commit to satisfy the hunger of the flesh, its sensual appetites, etc. The lust of the eye includes the sins people commit to amass for themselves this world's possessions, at the expense of their souls' salvation or nourishment. The pride of life includes the sins people commit to gain attention from the crowd, or to be one or more steps ahead of their associates. Space limitations do not permit enlarging on these temptations this week.

We do know this, that all of us face them, in milder or stronger forms, perhaps. They are in our lives, at times like dormant fountains, ready to spring forth at an uncalculated moment in power and frenzy to defeat us. At other times, they come in long, extended "chronic" naggings that beset the Christian at every turn of the way.

Our chief concern, though is not the fact that temptation comes, though it is important that we recognize its constant threat to our Christian life. The important thing is to know that there is Someone who can help us to overcome, and to live a victorious Christian life.

Though there is the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, yet there is also Christ, our High Priest (Hebrews 4:15) who is touched (aware) of our infirmities. He is not the untempted counsellor or "expert" of our well-being, but as we have noted from His temptations in the wilderness, is IN ALL POINTS tempted like as we are.

What does this mean to us? It means that our prayers are heard. It means He understands all about our problems, our heartaches. It means that we can come boldly unto the throne of grace —there to find mercy. The amazing thing is how, when this great fountain of heavenly balm is open to us that we insist on trying to live so much of our lives in our own strength. Let's spend more time coming boldly to Christ; into the merciful presence of our High Priest.

W. S. B.

Moderator's Address 1956 Indiana District Conference

Rev. R. K. Higgins

"There is a More Excellent Way"—I Cor. 12:31

TRULY, WE WHO ARE BRETHREN, should rejoice this day in the opportunity which we share of Worshipping God through His Son Christ Jesus, in whom we have found Blessed Salvation. I requested the reading of I Corinthians 12, in your hearing this morning, for I plan to use it as a continual reference in this Moderator's address to the 69th Annual Conference of Indiana District Brethren Churches. It is with deepest humility that I present these thoughts and perhaps a few recommendations to this conference; realizing anew, the tremendous responsibility that attends every endeavor for His Glory, and feeling very keenly my dependence upon Him—every moment of every day. Our Conference Theme is, "Deepening Wells of Faith" . . . upon which our Vice Moderator gave a splendid sermon last evening. My prayer is that these words may likewise inspire your seeking of a deeper faith.

Just these few introductory remarks as we look back upon the days of the early church, so richly portrayed by Paul's writings. We find that the first part of the Lord's Program had been completed—that is, the Good News had been given to Jerusalem, and He had commissioned disciples to go out unto all the nations. The time had now come when all men must hear about Jesus Christ, the risen, living, Lord and Saviour.

At this same time, other divisions of authority were made and other instruments named to get the job done. It was the first real difficult task of the Inner Church Council to get early Christians to see that the Holy Spirit could use other instruments, besides the ordained apostles to perform His many tasks. The Holy Spirit, as the divine head of the church was constantly engaged in advancing His purpose of wisdom, love, and grace toward all men. This purpose and this plan concerned the spreading of the gospel and the building of the church. These plans were not completely revealed, perhaps, in Paul's early writings; but as time passed he touched upon every phase of Church Organization and Administration. His later Epistles disclose God's plan fully and clearly. By looking into such writings as I Corinthians 12, we find that the church was the burden of all his work, and the heart of all his plans.

We, as Brethren, take great pride in being a full Gospel or a Fundamental Gospel Church. Thus, we ought to be tremendously interested in what the Holy Spirit would have us know. These are dangerous days in the life of the church and of spirit called men. Paul asked first of all that the early church recognize one thing, namely this, "That Jesus Is Lord." Too many confessed Christians today are willing to say that with their lips, but never allow the fact entrance into their hearts. It is such a short, clear-cut statement. It defies distortion and mis-interpretation, but no one can deny that it is the "Whole Gospel." Here is Jesus, "Our Lord and Our Saviour" joined inseparably as one Christ. Let no man seek to part asunder that fact. For if man will have Christ as Saviour, he must make Him, Lord. If any man calls Him Lord, then He is his Saviour.

Think for a moment, what might have happened to our world without our Lord. Certainly chaos would reign supreme today, the Church would be a body without a head . . . a family minus a father, an army without a captain, a ship without a pilot—a kingdom without a king. And those three words cover it all, "Jesus is Lord." To say them in sincerity takes in the tongue, the heart, the hands, the feet. For you see an outward profession is the symbol of an inward persuasion. Not a single true word can be spoken but through and by the agency of the Holy Spirit of God. I call upon you this day to let Him have control of your body, your heart, and your soul.

The Brethren Church in Indiana has been busy in past years setting up the machinery thought to be necessary in getting the job done. What is true here in Indiana is true of our church in general. It is high time we recognize that men, methods, and machinery—unless energized

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(Delivered at Shipshewana Lake, Indiana, on June 12, 1956.)

by the Holy Spirit, and lubricated by the Balm of Gilead; only serve to interfere and crowd out the working of the spirit of God. Human selfishness, personal ambition, and just plain old fashioned worldliness, are still an abomination unto the Lord, and certainly do grieve the Holy Spirit as He attempts to lead His Church, in the Salvation of Souls.

In verse 4 of this 12th chapter, Paul says, "Of course there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." Differences of Administrations, but one Lord." I am sure that talents and gifts are designed to be used as a means of communication between our risen Lord and His Church. Too often we have looked upon the ministerial function as the only gift God bestows upon His people. The Brethren Church needs to open our eyes to the immense fields of service, in music, youth leadership, Christian education, and stewardship. Pastors seldom have been ordained with talents in all of these fields, even though our churches have proceeded on that theory for years.

We need very badly the pioneering of a salaried Music Department, Youth Leaders, and Christian Educators, in all of our churches. Dean Delbert Flora of our own Ashland Seminary, feels very keenly the lack of ministerial students in our denomination. As long as the individual church insists on placing all the responsibility of enlisting candidates and training leaders upon their pastor, this condition will exist. The Administrative functions of our individual Church Government must be spread out upon a broader base. I am certain that God will Bless any church with the financial ability to do so, if they will ask. For do not we believe the whole gospel? And Jesus said in John 14:13, "And whatsoever Ye shall ask in my Name, that will I do, that the Father may be Glorified in the Son," and in the 14th, "If ye shall Ask anything in my Name, I will do It."

Every individual is endowed with some certain talent and ability, given by an Omnipotent Heavenly Father, that each might have some gift with which he could bring profit to his community. Too often the human element enters in and these gifts come to be looked upon as distinctions that lead to pride, envy, and separation, instead of being used in mutual esteem and helpfulness, that the entire church be edified. When this happens—that which may be most useful and beneficial to the common good, finds that it cannot compete with the spectacular. Thus we find the operation of our program losing its unity of plan and purpose. Our General Conference is taking a step in the right direction, by placing in operation the Co-ordinating Planning committee. It is too early to render an opinion as to their effect on the over all program of the Brethren Church, but certainly our many boards and committees need to be tied closer together, "For it is the same God that worketh all in all."

We live in a day of accentuated individualism on one hand and the Devilish Doctrine of Communism on the other. But I say to you this morning, that Christianity was never meant to be an external influence that clipped all of our wings after one pattern. I enjoyed visiting Niagara Falls a few years back and thrilled at the beauty of the Sir Harry Oakes Memorial Gardens. The trees and shrubs were all trimmed alike. Their oneness of shape presented a beautiful symmetry. But you see their unity was not because of an Inner Growth—only the result of an outward trimming. We Brethren people have always gloried in our absence of creed or discipline—recognizing the Bible as such. But dear friends, must we agree that our lack of discipline and harmony is due to our neglect of believing or following the teachings of that Holy Book? God forbid. Yet we find no real bond of fellowship existing among our churches. Neither do we find any recognition of authority given our boards or committees—either on a District or General basis. Cooperation with plans and purposes too often hinges upon personal opinions, rather than upon the Spirit of God. Perhaps our intense congregationalism is at fault. It should not be so. "For by One Spirit we are all Baptized into one Body." And Paul said, "For as the Body is One and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one Body—so also in Christ." Brethren we cannot long keep our identity—neither bring Glory to Him, unless we realign our thinking and our actions. Due respect for the different instrumentalities of our Denominational Government is in keeping with Paul's teaching, "For the Body is not one member, but many," and all are necessary.

Paul names the different instruments of the human body and seeks to emphasize the importance of each in its place. As individual members of the local church we must realize our identity with the Universal Church. As men become Christian, we must see that no longer is Life ours to use as we selfishly choose, but we belong to Him. Is the doctrine of the New Birth lost to the Brethren Church? Do we not have men in places of leadership who have been born afresh in the image of God? Are we not identified forever with Him? Then we are His Body—filled with His Spirit that filleth all things. There may be a diversity of function, office, or gift—but there must be a unity of the body. If we insist on continued lack of unified effort, then we must face the fatal consequences.—Disintegration of the Body. For these bodily members and functions which we constantly refuse to recognize or use, will die. The duty of each member is to function to the best of his ability, and with all due consideration for the rights and needs of others—in that place which God hath chosen for Him.

Few of us ever take time to think of just how dependent we are upon other things and other people. As

(Continued on Page 8)

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

MORE GRATEFUL COMMENTS

From Argentina

(Taken from Mr. Harold Stacey's letter regarding radio broadcasts)

. . . The radio station which carries our Gospel releases twice a week has increased its output power by just half as much again, which will naturally give us ever so much more coverage and a clearer signal away up in the north and south of the Argentine. Undoubtedly the Lord gave us all here vision when we first started up this mutual radio Gospel work by choosing "C. W. I. —Radio Colonia." It has become very popular since the revolution which overthrew the Peron regime, as it was the only station whereby Argentina listeners could get first-hand prompt information as to how matters were developing in the country. This station is placed just 54 kilometers in straight line with Buenos Aires on the Uruguayan coast, its antennaes beamed 180 degrees toward Argentina, placing a signal equivalent to any local station here on the air.

We are eagerly looking forward to the help the Hammond Organ will render to these broadcasts, as music is a great attraction to radio listeners here, especially organ music. It will add quality to the program and step up our letter response.

The news around town here that you are kindly forwarding a Hammond Organ for the radio and church work has caused quite a stir among folks who did not seem to have the vision of how important this work really is and the great importance it gives to the church that has a Gospel recording studio built into its premises.

Now that matters are under way and soon to become a reality, other denominations seem to have awakened and just realized the great chance they have lost. A Gospel recording studio adds 100% attraction, and without doubt, its congregation will certainly grow immediately.

Among the many letters which arrived by today's mail, there is one which may interest you:

Dear Sirs:

I am 23 years of age and wish to tell you that I have accepted Christ as my Saviour. I always tune to your beautiful Christian program over Radio Colonia every Sunday and Tuesday evening at 9 P. M. I feel I must tell you how happy I am because I can see the love of God in your words. I ask God to bless you in this great work.

Yours truly,

Daniel Rost.

We feel that radio is one of modern times' biggest challenges to get the Gospel out "to all nations" as the Word reads. God has faithfully provided up to now, and we feel we should continue to do so as hundreds of souls have already been saved and are members of different churches here today.

At our recent "radio workshop" fifteen souls gave a testimony of what God has done in their hearts as a result of our mutual radio effort. Some of the experiences were really outstanding cases of God's love and how they, not knowing why, felt led to tune in to the station we are on, heard our heart-reaching messages and were saved. Today they are baptized members of churches and live as witnesses to others.

We are looking forward to the day when it may be possible to have the valuable help of a radio technician. It will certainly be a great asset to the work down here. A full-time radio man can step up production of the studio 100%. Please keep the possibility of a radio man for Buenos Aires in your future plans for expansion in the River Plate area.

IN NIGERIA

Marianne Michael

Education

In the field of education the Church of the Brethren mission continues to make strides forward in ways undreamed of in the early days of the work in Northern Nigeria. Over one hundred well-qualified Christian teachers now teach a range of subjects comparable to schools anywhere, and transcending the language barrier through the ever wider use of Hausa (the over-all language of Northern Nigeria) and English.

A typical junior primary school of this area, the Garkida school has enrolled this year 345 boys and 125 girls. The senior primary, covering three additional years and quite selective, enrolls ninety-six boys. There are now senior primary schools at Lassa and Marama offering educational facilities to our young people superior to many areas in the north. Girls who continue in senior primary all go to Waka, where there are boarding facilities and where an emphasis on domestic science rounds out their training in a way that meets their particular needs.

Medical Work

One of the principal contacts which the mission has with local people is through the medical work—Christian, Moslem, Animists alike are beset by "all the ills that flesh is heir to." Substantial grants from government have permitted the work to expand through the addition of new buildings and equipment.

One of the areas in which the medical work touches African home life in a very real way is the obstetrical department. Increasing very slowly in a backward area, it is now becoming one of the most appreciated services of the hospital and more and more women are taking

advantage of its services. In the past year alone, there has been a more than 30% increase in obstetrical patients at the Garkida hospital, some coming from long distances to be in a mission hospital. A new obstetrics building is being planned for this year which will more adequately care for the increasing demand on its facilities.

Taking figures for the past five years (1952-1956) for the month of March (the closing month of the government fiscal year) attendances at the Garkida dispensary have increased from 7,000 treatments to 18,000 treatments. A little mental calculation will show how many patients one doctor and one American nurse see each day, and how the work is increasing yearly.—taken from the **Gospel Messenger.**

Ever Stop To Ask WHY DO PEOPLE COME LATE?

CLATE A. RISLEY

THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE who are always late. Late for everything they do. Practically every church has a few who have acquired such a reputation.

Then, there are others who are not late to most things, but are careless about getting to Sunday School on time.

I believe the biggest single reason people are late to Sunday School is because we do not give them any good reason to come on time.

WHY COME ON TIME?

A pastor recently said to me as he looked around and saw practically no one to begin it with, "How do you get people to come on time?" I didn't answer because I was afraid the real answer would embarrass both of us; but in my mind the thought was going 'round **"Why should anybody come on time?** Nothing really going on." Didn't need a television set to envision the same procedure that had been portrayed for the last 520 Sundays.

When I see the average opening assembly program (I never call it 'opening exercise,' there is not enough going on in most opening periods to be called an exercise) the question that comes to mind is not, why don't people come? but why do as many people come as do come?

Of course children often come late because their parents bring them late, but in the average household sufficient interest on the children's part would bring sufficient pressure to bear so that dad and mom would get there on time or at least get the children there on time.

ARE YOUR LEADERS THERE?

The place to begin to improve is with the leadership. Certainly the pastor and Sunday School Superintendent ought to be there at least 30 minutes early. Teachers and secretaries ought to be there 15 minutes ahead of time. We can't expect our pupils to come early or even on time if we do not. We teach much more by what we do than what we say. Our arrival time says much about how important we think the job is.

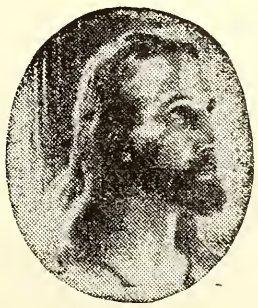
We have a right to expect the workers to be there ahead of time. A worker who cannot or will not make this adjustment should be spoken to by the pastor, the S. S. Superintendent, or the Director of Christian Education and informed that they are endangering their position. If they do not improve they should eventually be released of their job.

When the workers are there and a good program has been planned you will find a big per cent of your former late comers will have improved. However, some have acquired a bad habit and it may take a jar to break them loose.

MAKE PUNCTUALITY CONSCIOUS

We improved this situation in the church where I served with Sunday School attendance contests. Anyone who was late received no points, and if the person he had invited to come was late he received no points for getting him to come. People became punctuality conscious. They would urge their friends—"Be sure to come and be sure to come on time or it won't count."

100% punctuality for an entire school is very seldom attained, but we can improve the situation considerably if we work at it continually.—**The Link.**



INDIANA DISTRICT MODERATOR'S ADDRESS

(Continued from Page 5)

we look about us in the Natural Kingdom, we cannot fail to notice God's care of His Creation—from the highest to the lowest. We cannot ignore the principle of love at work about us. Why not let that same principle work in us? Without it, our world faces its Darkest Age. There are many more blades of grass than there are oak trees. But is it not the blades of grass that cover the roots of the mighty oak, shielding and protecting its very life? You see, in God's Kingdom there is no greater or lesser souls. All are needed. The strong must ever shelter the weak, but the weak often bring Blessings to the strong. Won't you look at our District Mission Program for a moment with me—in that light?

Much criticism has come to our District Mission Program in years past, because it was necessary to continue support of some churches—slow in starting, or made weak by division and strife. Many of our churches failed to pay their conference assessments, and failed to recognize any authority, but their own. Our Mission Program has suffered. But not nearly as much as those churches and individuals who refused to let Love work its miracles. By refusing to give—men and churches stymie their growth, Spiritually and Numerically. We have a fine Mission Board in the Indiana District, and an enlarged program. Why not satisfy your responsibility this year, as a church, and as a member of Christ's Body? Oh, I know, pastor's tell me that they just can't raise money for Home Missions. But listen friend, we are living in the midst of the greatest Mission Field our world has ever known. It may cost you an aching head to raise your Mission apportionment, but I say to you that failure to do so will produce an aching heart over the sin so prevalent in our day.

One of the bright spots in our District Program has been the Indiana Trustees of Shipshewana Lake Brethren Retreat. I do not need to enumerate the wonderful improvements here on the grounds. You have already seen them. I only want you to consider this work as being also a part of the Indiana Brethren Church. Such a work as this can never be made self supporting, by any stretch of your economic imagination. It could be used more than it has been in the past, if nearby churches could be made to realize the tremendous possibilities and opportunities presented by the facilities so close at hand. The full time management of the grounds is a step in the right direction. I urge every Indiana member to recognize the need, and give your wholehearted support to the program carried on here. The trustees have been limited by the availability of funds. Your assessment should be paid and more added by your visits and use of the grounds.

Shipshewana Retreat, of course, is synonymous with camp. Our Indiana Camping Program is becoming better organized and better administered, under the Indiana Sunday School Board. We are fast coming to the place where our Camping Program is limited by the available facilities. Through the years, this has been the strong point of our entire Denominational structure in Indiana. We cannot, as a body of Christ's people, allow it to become selective or limited in its work. A Camping Program that inspires, refreshes, and Saves our young people is deserving of our wholehearted support. Many would lay down their lives that some young person might live. How about loosening up the purse strings and giving new life to countless numbers of our youth? Too many churches feel that their pastors are neglecting the Home Church, or are on vacation while at camp. The camp experience should not be withheld from our pastors. It is always a rich, rewarding experience. More churches should offer financial help in transportation and expenses for those who are able to help in camp. The District Sunday School Board can only give a token support in mileage, etc. Surely, we must keep this Camping Program strong in our District. I must commend the many churches who have been keeping this assessment paid. The Sunday School Board has been able to do many fine things because of your support.

This is essentially the three part program of the Indiana District Brethren Church. Certainly, there should be no division between these members or instruments of His Body. The same care should be exercised on behalf of each of them. For when one member suffers, all members suffer with it . . . or when one member is honored, should not all rejoice? If our Mission Program can grow to supporting a church here at Shipshewana, then our Trustee Board will surely profit, and our Camping Program would be helped tremendously. I say these things because I desire you to sit back and get a full vision of our Indiana District Program. "For Ye are the Body of Christ, and Members in particular." Perhaps you are asking, "What Member am I, in the Body of Christ?"

Oh friend, there are so few helping hands these days. Too few giving hands I am sure. We need some consecrated feet these days to carry the Good News . . . not just into the far corners, but up and down the thoroughfares of America. Listening ears are needed in Christ's Body today. For if men will hear the gospel, we know that the Holy Spirit will guide into all truth. We need eyes that are lifted unto the Hills from whence cometh our Help . . . for our help cometh from the Lord. We need all of these members in Christ's Body . . . fitly and correctly joined together, they form the Church. You can be a useful member of the Body—Christ. Remember—If you have taken Christ into your heart then you are a member indeed.

It is the Moderator's perogative to make some observations. I will do that in just a few short statements. This has been a year of office holding for your Moderator, with no less than four different gavels residing in the confines of his office throughout the year. Gavels are not only the symbol of honor . . . but to many they are the encouragement to share problems and troubles. We have heard many this past year. Out of them we have formed some very trite opinions. In a Spirit of Love I bring them to you now.

As I listen to many different people, both laity and ministerial, these observations have been brought very clear to me: The Brethren Church, through the years, has steadfastly refused to face its problems. Whenever an individual church is faced with a definite Spiritual

problem of discipline—they nearly always decide the issue by changing pastors. Whenever, pastors find themselves battling too great a problem, they change churches. Denominationally, we just shrug our shoulders and, "Let Joe do it." Brethren, how long will the Holy Spirit strive with a stiff necked, unrepentant people? We cannot lay the blame at the Devil's doorstep for the evil imagining of man's unchanged heart. I say to you this day—"There is a more Excellent Way."

Truly, friends, It is only as the church comes to recognize the Lordship of Jesus Christ—yields to the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and labors in accordance with the plans and purposes of God that she will ever be able to do any real, aggressive work. Jesus, by His own admission, came for only one purpose—"To seek and to save the Lost." It is not God's plan that any be lost. The Lord is able to raise up men and women who will consecrate their lives to God, and go forward with His Gospel. May the Spirit of God open the hearts and purses of Brethren people, to give of their talents and their means to make possible the enlargement of our Blessed Church.

Paul saw the early church develop and extend its work tremendously. All of this was due to the fact that the entire work was under the control and direction of the Holy Spirit. He it was, that energized and moved the Church to Missionary endeavour. In that day there was a Spirit prompted, Spirit energized, and Christ directed program to reach the lost. How sad to see so little real Evangelistic effort these days. The church, like your body, must be fed from without—in order to live. New life springs up from within, only after the fuel comes from without. Men, methods, and machinery avail us little or nothing, unless consecrated and dedicated to Him—filled by His Holy Spirit. The selfishness, narrowness, and outright worldliness of the modern day church is actually crowding out the Holy Spirit. It is only in a return to Him in humility and repentance that a renewal of power will come.

Let us glory in every past gain for Him, and My Prayer for another year is that it may be a year of great concern for those millions outside the Body of Christ. May it be a year when we will seek them in all patience and understanding, with Love as the motivating principle of our life. I know that it will be a year of greater opportunities for the Brethren Church. May it be a year of Open Doors to receive new methods, new techniques, new manpower, new materials, and new vision. May God help it to be a year of closer cooperation, of working together to build a stronger, unified, progressive church, at local, state and world levels. Let it be a year of new growth, numerically and spiritually. And a year of greater courage in facing up to our problems, and seeking "That more excellent way" to solve them.

In closing, O God, let it be a year of Deepening Faith. Continue to strengthen our hands, to guide our feet, and bless our efforts as we seek day by day and moment by moment to know His Will and to do it. Father—make plain—"The More Excellent Way."

Elkhart, Indiana.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

LEARNING BY EXPERIENCE

.." . . . Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:39.

RECENTLY I read a comment by a religious writer which, at first caused me to disagree sharply with the author. However, upon more careful thought I came to see the simplicity of the thought. Paul would not have made the statement of our text when he penned his first epistles, but the writer of the statement which aroused my opposition had pondered life more deeply than I. Here is his assertion: "At first the disciples went ahead with faith, but blindly, not knowing what was going to happen." Imprisonment, beatings, perils on sea and land, hatred, mocking taught Paul that God's love was not something uncertain or that might fail him just when he needed the consciousness of its existance most. Wherever the apostles went (Paul was speaking for his brethren), whatever they did, God's love went with them. And later mere faith gave way to positive assurance, and we hear the intrepid old warrior heralding his faith in bold certainty as he asserts: "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

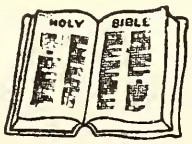
Stephen was stoned. But while they stoned him God granted to him to have a vision of the eternal glory of our heavenly Father, and to behold Jesus standing at the Father's right hand awaiting the coming of His follower. God was with Stephen to the end.

John, the beloved disciple, when he was old, and full of years had found what the love of God meant, and wrote again and again of the love of God which would not forsake the believer? The poet has asserted that

"Whoso draws near to God
One step through doubtings dim—
God will advance straightway
In blazing lights to him."

Experience has taught that God is not enthroned so high, nor yet enfolded in too much splendour to know man, neither is He forever alienated by degraded living from the need of man. Rather, He is always warm, compassionate, forgiving, always present with His children, always loving.

"OH TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD, HIS MERCY ENDURETH FOREVER."



BRYAN, OHIO, BRETHREN CHURCH DEDICATES REMODELED SANCTUARY and SUNDAY SCHOOL ADDITION

May 20, 1956

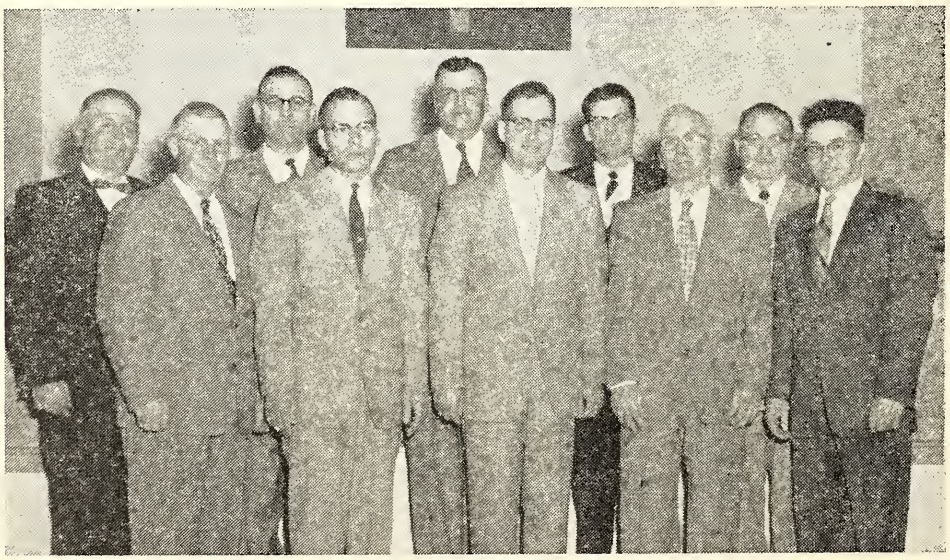
MAY 20TH was a day of dedication for the Bryan Brethren Church. Last September 11th work was begun on a 30 feet addition to the east of the church. This addition gives the church a new platform and thus increases the auditorium and the seating capacity. It also adds four new classrooms upstairs and a glassed in nursery. The floor of the new choir loft removes to use the new baptistry. Downstairs it gives a new kitchen and a church study, plus added classroom space. The downstairs is made so that it can be opened up, providing ample room for communion service. Along with the addition, the entire church was re-decorated inside and outside.

Previous to this, the parsonage was moved from the back of the church to the side of the church. It now faces on Main Street as does the church. This also leaves a strip about 40 feet wide across both lots for parking. Later this summer this strip will be leveled and stoned.

The building committee was headed by Rev. Grumbling, with ten men of the church working on it from time to time. This committee began its work in 1954 and has worked faithfully since then. Much of the credit of building goes to them.

The dedication service was set for 2:30 P. M. on Sunday afternoon. In the morning we had 234 for Sunday School and 238 for Church. 269 attended the afternoon dedication service. Greetings from former pastors and from some of the community churches were read. Rev. E. J. Black was present to bring words of greeting as a former pastor. Also present was Rev. Smith Rose and family. Greetings were brought by the vice president of the city Ministerial Association. After a special number by the Junior choir, the various people responsible for the actual building were recognized. Then came the recognizing of the members of the building committee. One of this number formally presented the addition to the church for dedication. Then came the response of dedication and the dedicatory prayer, led by the pastor.

After a number by the senior choir, Rev. C. A. Stewart, a former pastor, brought the message entitled "The



BRYAN BUILDING COMMITTEE

Back row: 1-r. Wayne Partee, Clifford Joday, Guy E. Brown, Grover Rusk, Lyle Riter.

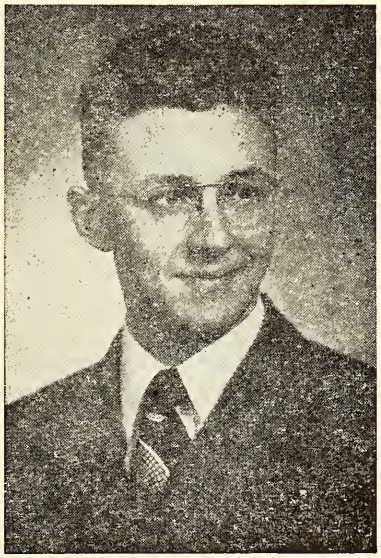
Front Row: 1-r.: Jack Diehl, Robert Kerr, Herbert Benner, Solon Lockhart, Rev. Grumbling.

Arthur Speigel, absent

Durability of the Church." Open house was observed after the service.

Not only did we provide an addition and remodel the church, but we added some new furnishings. The senior choir wore their new robes for the first time that Sunday. New folding tables were purchased for use in the communion service and for occasions of pot luck dinners. A new piano was purchased by the Good Will Sunday School class. Furniture for the new nursery was purchased by the Willing Hearts Sunday School class. And each of the other classes and organizations of the church did their part in providing the necessary furnishings above and beyond the working contract. Many people gave of their time during the week preceding dedication to come in and clean the church. All in all, it has given the Bryan Brethren a greater spirit of working together for the Lord. Indeed, the Lord has richly blessed us, and He has given us a greater challenge for His work.

Alvin H. Grumbling, Pastor.



REV. ALVIN H. GRUMBLING

YOUNG PEOPLE NOT PRAYING IN PUBLIC

When I was a young man about twenty-two years of age I went to a prayer-meeting one evening of a denomination not my own. Soon after entering the place the pastor came to me and inquired if I prayed in public, saying he could hardly get any of his young people to do so. Informing him that I tried to thus pray sometimes, he said he would call upon me to do so after the singing of the first hymn. On another occasion I remember hearing a young man, a professed Christian, say, "I cannot pray in public."

Please allow me to present a few reasons why some young persons, and others too, are unwilling to pray in public. To say that they "cannot," as some do, is somewhat of a reflection on their profession as real Christians. Making due allowance for the natural timidity of some persons, I content that when the love of God burns in the heart it will sometimes break out in public prayer. I do not say they can pray equally well either as to language or edification. But this is not expected.

The reason why some say that they cannot pray in public is because of their wrong conception of the nature of true prayer. They forget that it is simply the sincere outpouring of the heart to God, irrespective of human embellishments. Let us beware lest we seek the praise of men more than the approbation of God.

Another reason for thinking one cannot pray publicly is doubtless because of a failure to practice. We should begin to pray in public as soon as we are saved. It should not only be regarded as a duty, but likewise a privilege. It will help to develop one's spiritual graces as well as more or less prove a benefit to others. It is well known that some of the most inelegant prayers, humanly speaking, have been the means of convicting and converting sinners. But they were prayers in the Holy Ghost. And all may have His help. Indeed without Him no one can pray with spiritual effectiveness.

And still another cause why some do not pray in public is their lack of secret prayer. Thus they fail to acquire the spirit and power of prayer. When the heart is kept aglow by daily and frequent private prayer, there will be more or less spontaneous breaking out in public petition.

And still another reason for an unwillingness or inability to pray fervently in public is the failure devotionally to read and study the Word of God. The proper use of the Bible will invariably kindle a spirit of devotion. Some persons, I am well aware, can easily pour forth a volume of words without really praying. But the deception is readily detected by those living in the Holy Spirit. A young man once complained to a preacher that he was not getting along in religion as he would like. The fact was revealed that he seldom read the Book of books and was very irregular in secret prayer. There is no volume like the Oracles of God for furnishing us with material for true prayer.—Spurgeon.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

FOR THIS CRISIS

We must have Faith, for darkness is about us;
There's light beyond, though we have lost our way.
Oh, falter not! We'll find again the home path,
And see the sunlight of a brighter day.

We must have Hope, for we are near despairing,
And Hope will be an anchor to the soul;
Though stormy winds may roar their weird enchantment,
Hope, radiant Hope, will help us find the goal.

We must have Love, and Love will lighten burdens;
And Love will bring us cheer and banish care.
The greatest blessing life can ever bring us
Is Love, which gives us strength to do and dare.

We must have God! Without Him we are helpless!
We've failed because we've tried to go alone—
And now in sorrow, care and tribulation,
Come, seek the Lord, and bow before His throne.

The Light will come! It never, never fails us!
God ever lives—His promises are sure;
He holds the waves—the winds are in His fingers,
In His blest care our future is secure!

—Annie Agnes Smith.

IN A CRISIS AT SEA Paul said to 275 people, "I believe God" (Acts 27:20-25). God in His Word has given us promise of great things if we will ask in faith (Mark 11:23, 24). He encourages us to have faith and trust (Mark 9:23). God encourages us to ask anything we desire for His glory if faith rises in hearts to claim His blessing (Matt. 21:22). To ask in Jesus' Name should be a strengthening to our faith (John 14:13; 16:24). We are not alone if we engage in the Great Commission—God is with us (Matt. 18:19, 20). We are to honor God by asking big things of Him (Psalm 81:10). Nothing is too hard for Him (Jer. 32:26-27)! God invites us to call upon Him, and He will answer with things beyond our knowledge (Jer. 33:3).

To develop our faith we are to give ourselves to Bible study (Rom. 10:17). "What He has done for others, He will do for you" is true because God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). Abraham believed God, "and he counted it to him for righteousness" (Gen. 15:6). By faith Abraham offered up Isaac (Heb. 11:17-19), and was able to return with the lad to the servants who were awaiting them in the valley (Gen. 22:5). Abraham's trusted servant was able by divine guidance to obtain the right bride for Isaac (Gen. 24:27, 40, 56). God delivered the giant Goliath into the hand of a youth by the name of David (1 Sam. 17:37, 45, 46). He spared the three Hebrew youths from the destruction of a flaming furnace because they believed God (Dan. 3:16-18).

We believe God because He has been our Help in th past (Psalm 116:2). We are commanded to "have fait in God" (Mark 11:22-24). In fact, unbelief is great wick edness before God (John 3:18-21). First, we are to wil to do His will, and then we shall know (John 7:17). Un belief is sinful disobedience (Rom. 14:23). Faith is th way to have one's prayers answered (Mark 11:23). Eve a "grain" of faith is very precious (Matt. 17:20). Th Syrophoenician woman had "great faith" (Matt. 15:28) And you can believe (Mark 9:23), and have your prayer answered (Matt. 21:22; 9:28, 29). Without faith we can not please God (Heb. 11:6).

Let us learn to be of faith so that the crises of lif will not crack us (Rom. 10:17). Let us give God chance to prove Himself all along (Mal. 3:10). Let u keep our sins confessed so that faith will not diminis (1 John 3:19-22). Let not faith be hindered by our lack ing in obedience (1 John 3:21, 22).Let us not be lack ing in Christian forgiveness (Mark 11:25, 26). Remem ber that faith is a gift of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:8 9; Luke 17:5).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for July 15, 1956

JESUS IS THE SAVIOR OF MEN

Lesson: Hebrews 2:9-13; 4:14-16; 5:7-9

THE GREAT SCOTCH surgeon, Sir James Simpsor was once approached by a young man who wished t compliment him by asking what he regarded as hi greatest discovery. The eminent scientist replied simply "My greatest discovery is that I am a great sinner, an that Jesus is a great Savior."

Men have heralded Jesus Christ as a great Teacher as a forceful Leader; as a kind and sympathetic Physi cian. Indeed He is all these—and more. **We dare not for get, however, that over and above all these, JESU CHRIST IS THE SAVIOR OF MEN!**

Jesus Christ is able to be the Savior of Men, becaus as we studied in last week's lesson, He is the Son o God. He who has authority over all things (Heb. 2:8) tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9). This He wa able to do because He identified Himself with man, b partaking of man's nature, and being clothed with hu man flesh.

The human mind cannot fully comprehend this blesse truth. What does it mean to us that Christ Jesus our Lor "was made in the likeness of men?" (Phil. 2:7). Rea Heb. 2:18, and 4:15 in Williams translation: "For in asmuch as He has suffered Himself by being tempte He is able to give immediate help to any that are tempte . . . For we do not have a High Priest who is incapabl of sympathizing with us in our weakness . . . "

It was through suffering that Jesus became the Sa ior of the world. "Although He was a Son, He learne

from what He suffered how to obey" (Wms.—5:8). Wherein did He suffer? Gethsemane was a place of suffering: "And being in an agony He prayed . . . and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground" (Luke 22:44). Then there was the Cross: "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" (Matt. 27:46).

Because Christ suffered for us "He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him" (5:9). No wonder the poet could say:

"In peace let me resign my breath,
And Thy salvation see;
My sins deserve eternal death,
But Jesus died for me."

Remember all this the writer of Hebrews was writing to Christians being subject to persecution and trial—Christians who needed strength to remain faithful to their Lord. Now the writer told them they possessed a Savior who had been willing to leave heaven's glory, and come to this sin-cursed earth in the form of flesh, in order that He might suffer and die for them!

Therefore he exhorts them: "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;)" (10:23).

Wedding Announcement

OYLER-DEETER. On Sunday, 2:30 P. M., June 10, occurred the marriage of Florence Oyler and Gary Deeter, at the Seward Ave., Baptist Church, Topeka, Kans. Gary is a son of Loyde E. Deeter, and a grandson of Rev. W. R. Deeter. Rev. Brumme, the pastor, gave the preliminaries, and Rev. Deeter read the marriage lines. The couple have been doing local mission work for two years, and have spent some years in Prairie Bible Institute in Canada. They want to do mission work in South America when through school. They are a talented couple and devoted to the Lord's work.

W. R. Deeter, Topeka, Kansas, R. 5.

Laid to Rest

TOWSLEE. Rosa Ella (Deeter) Towslee, was born in Miami Co., Ohio, August 1867. Passed over at Norcatur, Kans., June 8, 1956, near 89 years. Married to Irving Towslee, Mar. 1893. Three children were born. Baptized by Elder D. M. Writtenhouse and was a member of the Brethren Church. Funeral services at Norcatur on June 12. Was the oldest sister of Rev. W. R. Deeter.

W. R. Deeter, Topeka, Kansas, R. 5.

* * *

TEMPLE. Melvin M. Temple, born Sept. 1, 1879, in Verdon, Nebr. Passed on June 8, 1956, at Wymore, Nebr. Burial was June 12. In his early manhood he was a member of the Brethren Church in Norton Co., Kans. Married to Allura Sloan in 1906. One daughter was born. Was the older brother of Mrs. Rev. W. R. Deeter.

W. R. Deeter, Topeka, Kansas, R. 5.

* * *

OSBORN. Harvey M. Osborn, 66, died June 10, 1956, after an illness of nine months. Married to Edna Mechling, Dec. 25, 1912. Besides his widow, survived by one daughter, two grandsons and one brother. Long a member of the Tiosa Brethren Church. Funeral services conducted in the Church by his pastor, Rev. Wayne Swihart, assisted by Dr. E. M. Riddle. Interment, Richland Center I. O. O. F. Cemetery.

Mrs. Otto Kath, Ch. Corr.

* * *

CRIST. Mrs. Stanley F. Crist, departed this life May 15, 1956, at the age of sixty years, after a brief illness with a rare bone and blood malignancy. From young womanhood she had been a member of the Olivet Church of the Brethren. On May 15th, 1955, she enrolled as a Charter member of The Newark Brethren Church, and was subsequently elected Financial Secretary. Surviving are the husband, three daughters, three sons, ten grand children, two great grandchildren, two sisters and three brothers. The funeral was conducted from a Newark Chapel with the Rev. Kenneth W. Hollinger, Pastor of the Olivet Church officiating, assisted by this Pastor of the Newark Brethren Church.

William S. Crick.

GOD'S WILL IS BEST

God's will is better than our will,
It's always right and good.
I would not have my way at all,
Not even if I could.
God holds the future in His hands
And scans the unspent years;
He knows the trying hours ahead,
The pain and bitter tears.

Oh! just to leave it all with Him
And lean upon His breast.
To know, whatever comes or goes,
That His dear will is best.
Oh! just to let Him have His way,
With heart and life and soul,
Brings peace so sweet, and joy divine,
And leads us safely Home.

We cannot understand, sometimes,
Why things do happen so,
Nor why the way is often rough
That we are called to go.
But in the meadow's sunlight
Or through the mountain's cleft,
Hold Him gently by the hand
And KNOW His will is best.

—Thelma Curtis.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

A MESSAGE FROM "BILL" FELLS BRETHREN YOUTH TREASURER

LAST MARCH Clarence Stogsdill requested that all the Youth Board Members write an article in regard to the BRETHREN YOUTH OFFERING which was to be received in the month of MAY. The other members of the Board did a wonderful piece of work of informing you about our work and it was my opinion then and is now that my article would be more timely NOW.

The Brethren Youth, through the treasurer, would like to thank the Brethren Church and her members and friends for the response they have given to our request. As of this date, June 26, 1956, we have seventy-one entries in the May Offering Column of our Books, and we are grateful for all of this. There are many personal gifts as well as the great number from the Churches. But, as you know, there are one hundred and seven Brethren Churches. These figures show that something over half of our churches have not responded to this call. If the youth don't count in your Church who are going to be the members in your Church tomorrow? There must be quite a number of young people around your Church neighborhood that need the Church. And your National Brethren Youth Board is organized to help both the Church and the Youth.

If you do a little rapid calculation you will see that the average offering from each of our 107 Churches should be approximately Eighty dollars ($80.00) if we are to have a budget of Eighty-five hundred Dollars ($8500.00). And you know that there are some that can't give Eighty dollars ($80.00), and this means that someone will have to give more than their share. Who will be the next pastor, youth director, youth sponsor, or other interested party to inform the Treasurer of their Church that the Brethren Youth Organization needs a check from him or her, in the name of the Church, for Eighty dollars ($80.00)? Again a word of thanks to all you who have sent in your offering, and especially to those who have done more than their share.

Sincerely yours,

H. WILLIAM FELLS, TREASURER
BRETHREN YOUTH BOARD
232 Sherman Ave., Ashland, Ohio.

CHANGE IN CRUSADER PLANS

DUE TO UNFORESEEN and unavoidable circumstances in Newark, Ohio, Rev. Crick notified us that it was necessary to cancel their Bible School. We are sorry that this was necessary, but we'll look forward to a bigger and better endeavor next year. This change necessitated a change in the location of the Girls' Crusader Team from June 25 through July 8. Therefore, Carol Johnson and Carol Berkshire have been helping to operate the Bible School in Teegarden, Indiana for this period. Our thanks to Brother Edgar Berkshire for his willingness to work these Crusaders into their program.

Bonnie Swihart and the workers at Lost Creek had 50 pupils enrolled in their first day of Bible School at Riverside Christian Training School on June 18. That same day Susan Miller and Joann Rummel enrolled 20 at the Rowdy Bible School. Boy, these girls do a good job. Watch for a letter of appreciation for their work in the coming issue of the BRETHREN YOUTH MAGAZINE.

If you are driving through Kentucky any time, be sure to stop at Lost Creek and see the work Dorman Ronk, Mr. Teed, and Mr. Hall are doing on the parsonage and classroom building. Brethren, this is fertile ground for training young people. Back it!

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Taking the place of Mrs. Bea Bischof is certainly not an easy task, but the opportunity to speak to the Sisterhood Girls in her absence was much appreciated. It was stressed at that gathering that Brethren Youth is willing to help and serve every youth organization in the Church with its rallies, meetings and individual lives. Perhaps some girls from that group will be Crusaders in the coming years.

Time given on the District Conference program was used to push present and future plans of Brethren Youth and, of course, pass the "fish bowl." It was an enjoyable visit to Oak Hill.

ANYTHING GOES HERE

I hope that the married life of Jerry Flora and Julia Tritch will not be as "stormy" as their wedding day June 23. God's blessing of happiness on these two Brethren Youth.

CAMP JUNIATA

The warm welcome given by Walter Wertz and Lyle Lichtenberger, manager and dean of Camp Juniata, was appreciated during my day-long visit there. They kept me out of trouble by showing pictures, speaking in chapel swimming and serving as a boys' counsellor one night Why won't those fellows from Vinco and Masontown go to sleep on the first night of camp? That's a problem broad enough to be a thesis subject. Encourage you young people to take advantage of this valuable training ground for their lives next year. The spirit there is fine

CAMP ZION

The same cordial greeting was extended by Rev. John Byler and Rev. Bob Keplinger at Zion. This whopping big camp of 107 provided an enjoyable day of service. may have made a few enemies with a bad call durin the soft-ball game, but all was forgotten when we bega to build nine-man pyramids in the swimmin' hole. Thes times of fun were only side lights to the main purpos of the visit—that of representing Brethren Youth an challenging the campers in the name of Jesus Chris after supper and at camp fire, respectively. Your youn folks are eager to learn and know of lasting value Thanks, Ohio campers, for a good time.

TRAVELING ON

July 2-9 Camp Blackhawk, Muscatine, Iowa
July 9 Visit to Elgin, Illinois
July 10 Camp Shipshewana
July 12-15 Ohio District Conference

THE BOTTOM OF THE FISH BOWL IS COVERED

are you coming to national brethren youth in ashland, ohio, august 13 thru 19?

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

The 3 B's of Good Membership

AS BRETHREN WOMEN one of our first duties is to be a good member of our church, our W. M. S., Sunday School class or whatever organization in which we hold membership. It is also important to learn to be a good Christian member of any Community project or group that we come in contact with as by our actions in other activities we show the world how we respect and love our Saviour and our church. If we follow the 3 B's of membership we will help ourselves, as well as others to have a better fellowship with our sisters and brothers in Christ.

1—Believe. One of the first steps in becoming a member of the church is found in Mark 16:16. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." We must truly believe, and in doing so we will have faith and hope in all things.

2—Belong. If we believe enough in anything we will naturally want to belong, for it is only by belonging and working that we accomplish that which is good in our Lord's sight. However just belonging does not mean much to us or to our fellow man if we do not really work at it as we find in James 2:17. "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

3—Be on time. How often in our work for the Lord do we find ourselves at a standstill because others are not on time. Perhaps the best story in the Bible to point out the importance of this "B" is in the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, for like those who came too late, we may lose out on the important things of life and in afterlife if we do not make being on time an important part of our lives.

I hope that by meditating a little while on these 3 "B"s we might strive to be better members of our church and our W. M. S. We will find that not only will our societies grow by our efforts, but we will in a small way, grow as Jesus did "in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:52.

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member: the kind that would be missed,
Or are you just content that your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock,
Or do you stay at home and criticise and knock?
Do you ever go to visit a member that is sick,
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about a clique?
There's quite a program scheduled that I'm sure you've heard about,
And we'll all appreciate it if you'll come and help us out.
Do come to the meeting often and help with hand and heart,
Don't be just a member—Dig in, Do your part.
Think this over, folks, you know right from wrong.
Are you an active member or do you just belong?

—"Author Unknown."

Mrs. Donald L. Kollar,
South Bend, Indiana.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT W. M. S. BANQUET RESERVATIONS

All persons interested in attending this banquet please notice that it will be held THURSDAY evening, at 5:30 P. M. D. S. T. in the Church of the Brethren, corner of Spring Street and Chandler Ave., Johnstown, Penna.

All reservations must be sent to Mrs. Floyd Benshoff, 148 Wilson St., Johnstown, Penna., before July 15!

Miriam M. Bird.

WHAT SHALL HELL BE LIKE!

"To go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched."—Mark 9:43.

An old Scotch preacher was passing a glass factory just before going to church to preach. As a door was ajar, and it was some time till the service, he stepped inside. One of the large furnaces had just been opened. He gazed into the white, blue and purple mass of liquid flame until it nearly seared his face. As he turned away, unaware of anyone being present, he exclaimed "Ho, mon, what shall hell be like!"

A stoker standing in the shadow heard him. Several nights later at the church a man came up to him. "You don't know me, but the other night when you stepped into the furnace room I heard what you said. Every time I have opened that furnace since then, the words have rung in my mind, 'What shall hell be like!' I have come tonight to find out the way of salvation so that I will not have to find out what hell is like.—Sel.

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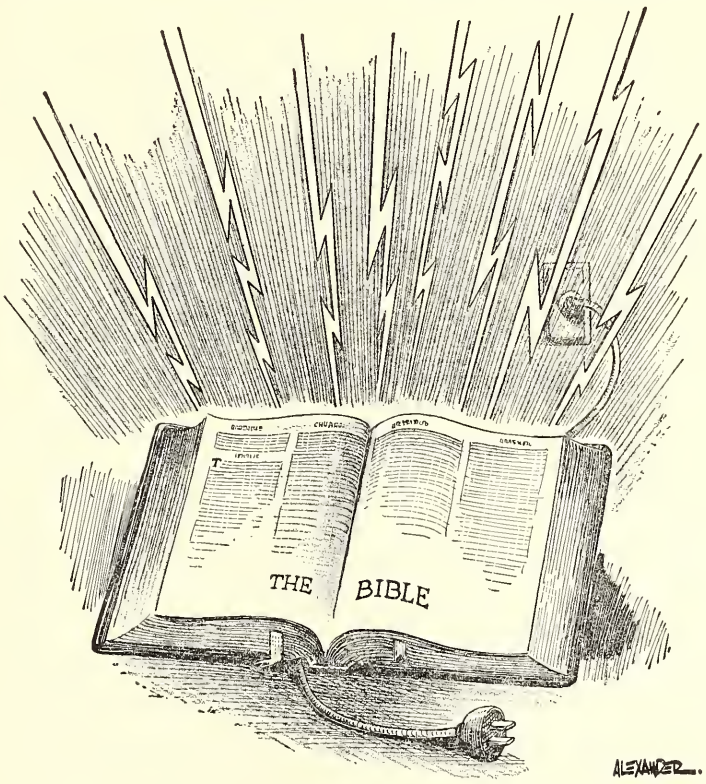

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Items of General Interest

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Dr. William Leach, Church Consultant and Editor of Church Management, Cleveland, Ohio, was guest speaker in the Louisville Church, on July 8th. Special meetings were also held Monday evening. Object of the meetings was to study the possibilities for growth and expansion, to help to know when and how to build.

July 8th was also observed as 100% Day in Sunday School, with each class encouraged to have 100% of their enrollment present.

GLENFORD, OHIO. The Glenford Church observed their Homecoming on July 8th. Guest speaker was Dr. J. Garber Drushal, Wooster, Ohio, a former pastor. Morning services were followed by a carry-in fellowship dinner, and an afternoon service. (Ed. Note: We are sorry this announcement did not reach us in time for inclusion in a previous issue, but we are glad to call attention to this fine program and day observed by the Glenford Brethren.)

WARSAW, INDIANA. Richard Allison, assistant pastor of the Goshen Church, is the scheduled guest speaker in the Warsaw Church on July 15th, when the Brethren Youth will present their public service.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Brother J. D. Hamel has recently completed a series of sermons on Notre Dame University's Television Program over WNDU.

MANTECA, CALIF. Brother C. Y. Gilmer, on a card to the Editor, notes as of date June 19th, that, "To date 99 meal tickets have been sold for Camp Berea, and there are 80 regularly on the grounds." A later card notes that the enrollment is increased over that reported." Brother Gilmer has promised pictures and a write-up of their camp, for the Evangelist.

PASTOR NEEDED

The Brethren Church of Gratis, Ohio, desires to contact anyone interested in the pastorate of this Church.

Write to:

Mrs. Roy M. Brubaker, Church Secretary,
R. R. 2,
West Alexandria, Ohio

SUGGESTIONS ON REACHING ASHLAND NEXT MONTH

DELEGATES TO THE 68th General Conference of the Brethren Church at Ashland, Ohio, next month will find things a little different relative to highways in Ohio and around Ashland. We pass a few suggestions on to you for your consideration.

COMING TO ASHLAND FROM POINTS EAST. Since last Conference, the Ohio Turnpike has been opened, offering easier and swifter access to Ashland. All reports to the contrary, even though it adds a few miles, the best way to Ashland, using the Ohio Turnpike, is to drive west to the Strongsville-Cleveland Interchange, which is No. 10. Turning south on U. S. Rt. 42 brings you right into Ashland. (The few extra miles driven this way is more than compensated by the freedom from mile after mile of truck traffic experienced on U. S. Rt. 224, and other routes.)

LIKEWISE, COMING FROM POINTS WEST, and using the Ohio Turnpike, we suggest you drive east on the Turnpike to the Sandusky-Norwalk Interchange, which is No. 7. Turn south on U. S. Rt. 250 right into Ashland.

AT THE CITY OF ASHLAND another very important change has been made. Since last Conference a Rt. 42 By-Pass has been opened around the city. Route 42 does not go through Ashland now. Thus it is important that those coming into Ashland either way on Rt. 42 should watch carefully for signs, for, if you don't you may miss us (sob) altogether. W. S. B.

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The General Conference program has been received from Executive Committee Secretary, Rev. T. A. Shannon, and will appear in next week's EVANGELIST.

PASTORATE OPEN

Since our Pastor, Rev. J. F. Burton, will be leaving the pastorate here at Mulvane, Kansas on September 1, 1956 the Mulvane Brethren Church will be in need of a pastor at that time. Any Brethren Minister interested in coming to Mulvane is invited to communicate with,

Dwight E. Bishard, Corresponding Secretary,
643 E. Mulvane St.,
Mulvane, Kansas.

The Editor's Pulpit

The C. P. & C. C. Reports

AT THE 1955 GENERAL CONFERENCE the delegates approved, upon recommendation of retiring Moderator W. B. Brant, the formation of a Co-Ordination Planning Committee.

This Committee, composed of representatives of the various Boards and Auxiliaries of the Brethren Church, was given the responsibility of looking at the problems, the organization, and the areas of potential growth in the Church, and to bring a report of their findings and suggestions to the 1956 General Conference.

The Committee has been faithful to their charge, and a summary report of their work appears on pages ten and eleven in this **Evangelist.**

By action of the Committee it was decided to print said report of its findings at this time in order to give the Brethren a chance to study the Committee's action. Thus, every interested Brethren can, in the next few weeks, study this report, become intelligently and factually informed on what this Committee has been doing this year, and desires to see done in the foreseeable future.

We would urge every Brethren who is planning on coming to General Conference next month, to study this report. Much time and explanation can thus be saved when the report is made to General Conference by a forehand understanding of its content. The report is to be presented to Conference on Wednesday morning.

It should be kept in mind that even though this Committee spent hours in deliberation and discussion, that every member is aware that only the surface has been scratched. Much, much more yet remains to be done. But the Committee has made a great start and has done a wonderful job this year. As you read their report, you will note the depth and value of their work and their suggestions.

This is the report for which the Brethren Church has been waiting. The Central Planning and Co-Ordinating Committee (its suggested official name) presents it to you for your study now, and for your consideration and opinion in the coming General Conference of the Brethren Church.

We suggest that as you study this report, that you will also give much time to prayer, asking that the Lord will continue to guide the Committee, the delegates, and the church this coming month in Conference, that as a result of working together there might come a true advance in the business of the church— the witness of the gospel at home and abroad.

This is the day and age when men are slipping their moorings. Many do not have any real security. Materialism appears to be the answer, but men's spiritual problems are not being solved by things of iron, wood and stone. Only the gospel of Christ can bring peace of mind to troubled hearts. If our Church, under the will and the Spirit of God can plan and produce in a way that unmoored men will find the eternal Christ to Whom they can tie their ropes of faith, then we have not labored in vain. Men, even though not admitting it, are seeking for security. It is our prayer, that by our witness, men might be brought to Christ, for now and eternity.

To this end, the Central Planning and Co-Ordinating Committee has worked. To this end, we must now study their report, and to this end we must evaluate and consider their efforts, in next month's General Conference. W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Boyhood Days on the old Deffenbaugh Farm

Part One

THE HALCYON CARE-FREE DAYS of boyhood only become so when viewed from the eminence of years. It was in the Spring of 1893 that a young man, twenty-seven years of age, wife and two small sons, one three years of age and one nearly two, moved from Glenford, Ohio, to the farm of Samuel Deffenbaugh. The couple and family were: Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ankrum, (Armstrong, usually shortened to Arm,) sons, the Author and younger brother, Earl. It was to the farm of Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary; Mrs. Deffenbaugh was a sister of Jason Mack, the father of Lucinda Mack Ankrum. A. L. Ankrum and wife had located in Glenford, Ohio, after their marriage, where he was employed on the Railroad. However it was thought desirable to move from the town to the farm. After discussions, terms were agreed upon. They were those common in that day. A house was furnished, feed for one horse, meat, a cow pastured, a garden with the opportunity to raise some chickens, and the sum of $200.00 a year as wages. This figured out to some $16.66 a month cash.

The Deffenbaugh farm was one of some 400 acres and was located four miles east of Glenford. Part of it, a small part was in Licking County while the bulk was in Perry County. There were three houses on the farm. There was a large brick house on the hill; a couple hundred yards to the east, a large brick house at the bottom of the hill, and just across a small ravine in which was a spring. To the west was a frame house considerably older. It was into the frame house that the Ankrums moved. The brick house just across on the other side of the free flowing spring was unoccupied. The brick for both houses had been burned on the site or nearby. The empty house had been occupied by John and Elizabeth Deffenbaugh, father and mother of Samuel, until John's death in 1891. "Aunt" Betsy as she was commonly called had moved up on the hill with her son Samuel and family. The brick house was still furnished with "Aunt Betsy's" furniture. No one was going to live in it while she was living. The occupants of the upper house were Samuel and Mary Mack Deffenbaugh, "Aunt" Sarah Ann Mack, the son Charles and his wife Minnie, and Ethel, twenty years younger than her brother Charles. Charles and Minnie Oaks of Trotwood, Ohio, had been married in 1891. They met while students in Ashland College, even as many others have done.

The Deffenbaugh farm was surrounded by the following neighbors; on the north, the neighbor was Ed Hupp and family; to the east was Murray Bowser. Southeast was the Civil War veteran, John Ford, and wife. They were members of the Greenwood Church of the Brethren, or, "Conservative" church. Beyond Fords were Florance Eversole and wife. She was a sister of Mrs. A. L. Ankrum. To the south was Frank Coble. To the west and southwest were Martin Daugherty, and joining him Jason Mack, wife, and son, Jacob. Jason was the brother of Mary Deffenbaugh and was commonly called "Uncle Jesse." He was also the father of Lucinda Ankrum and Olla Eversole. To the west was the farm of John Bradshaw and wife, Catherine, or "Kate" as she was known. This family consisted of Murray, Olive, Bertha and Ella. To the northwest was the farm of Rev. Samuel Orr, a Farmer-Preacher of the Greenwood Church.

The nearest "Progressive" Church was the one at "Five Points," or "Bethel," as it was commonly called. "Ziontown," was another common name for the church. This Church was four miles west of Glenford. This made an eight mile trip one way to the Church from the Deffenbaugh farm.

The Deffenbaugh farm was very much self-contained. There were few things needed that could not be supplied one way or another from the farm. Sugar and coffee, and a few groceries were secured by trade. Lion Head Coffee was prized because the lion heads could be cut out and sent to Toledo for premiums. Glenford was the nearest Post Office. There was very little mail outside of some papers and an occasional letter. The "Youth's Companion," came to the house on the hill and was eagerly awaited when the copy could be passed on down to the writer.

It was on this farm that the Author spent practically eight years from 1893 until 1901. Some one has stated that "the golden years of boyhood are those leading up to the eleventh year." The Philosopher did not come to this conclusion until he had reached the place where he could look back upon those years. Yet the Author is

inclined to agree with him in part. Boyhood days at the time consisted in doing those little tasks which interfered with play. It is not quite as bad as the man who described his childhood as "being prevented from doing the things I wanted to do and being forced to do the things I did not desire to do."

The Deffenbaughs were progressive farmers and various new machinery and new methods were tried out on the farm. Not only for the farm but also for the house was secured the latest labor saving machinery. Here was the Sugar Camp, and in season the Cider Mill did its work. Plenty of horses to do the work were to be found in both large barns. There were the buggy or carriage horses never used for the heavier tasks of the farm. Among the favorite teams were "Pete and Doll," "Stub" and "Barney," "Old" and "Young" Bell, used both for machinery and the fringed top Surrey. Sheep by the hundred were raised and the farm teemed with activity. Not of the least interest to us goggle-eyed youngsters, were the many visitors who came to the Deffenbaughs. They were hospitable and willing hosts to any and all.

The Deffenbaughs had a keen interest in Ashland College. Charlie had taught there a year in the Agriculture Department, after going to school along with his cousin Lucinda Mack, who became Lucinda Mack Ankrum. It, as has been stated, was at Ashland that Charlie met Minnie Oaks who became his wife and moved with him to the farm. She was highly skilled and possessed many accomplishments. She was a skilled seamstress and musician. Because of the connections, there were visitors who otherwise would have never visited the farm. In 1894 there came one family, of considerable interest. It was that of Dr. S. Garst, wife, and son, Paul of Jonesboro, Tennessee. Dr. Garst was brought from Tennessee to be President of Ashland College, which he was for a brief time. He is remembered by the writer, who played with Paul. Paul's end was tragic according to reports of his manhood. His temper caused him to commit murder and his life, according to reports, was forfeited to the state of Tennessee.

The first Preacher to be remembered by the writer was Rev. J. M. Bowman who was the Pastor for eight years. It was during his Pastorate that the Berachah Church was built on the Deffenbaugh farm in 1898. He came from Roann, Indiana, and lived at Deffenbaughs while he preached at "Five Points." The Deffenbaugh home was always the home of the preachers, both visiting and otherwise. Rev. Bowman's favorite means of travel was the bicycle. He would ride it from time to time to Zanesville and back in an afternoon, a total distance of 32 miles. It was thought that it was this which finally caused a break down in his health. It was for that reason that he resigned from the Glenford work.

Rev. Bowman was always considerate of us youngsters. He let us look at his books. Permitted us to ride with him on the bicycle, which in those days would be comparable with a ride in an Aeroplane today. When he closed his pastorate he presented the writer with three books, which are treasured to this day. One of them was a Bible. Rev. Bowman left the field in 1900. When Earl and the writer came home from school and found that he had gone, never to be seen again, the tears rolled down my cheeks unchecked as I sadly walked down the hill home.

In this connection may be listed some of the many who contributed to the Glenford work by their presence and preaching. J. M. Bowman was followed by Ed. Burnworth, who preached his first sermon on the Glenford field. His brother Ben also preached his first sermon in the Berachah Church and the writer was one of his audience. However Ben was never a Pastor at Glenford.

Others in the early days of the Author's boyhood who preached there, were of course John Allen Miller of Ashland; William Beachler; A. H. "Bert" Lichty, C. E. Weidner, Harvey Oberholtzer, A. A. Cober of Berlin, Pennsylvania, W. C. Benshoff, L. W. Ditch, Dr. Duncan MacGregor of Philadelphia. He held a very successful Evangelistic Meeting at the Bethel Church. Here five roads converged giving it the other name of "Five Points." Here was and is a "Conservative" church, just

(Continued on Page 8)

THE AUTHOR IN FRONT OF HIS OLD BOYHOOD HOME

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

BRETHREN CONFERENCE—BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

IT GIVES US GREAT PLEASURE to inform our Brethren in the States that the **Brethren Church in Argentina** was formally and legally founded on May 25, 1956. We here praise the Lord for His leading and direction through this last year of study, planning and preparation for this moment. For our Argentine Mission this signifies a great step forward. It also signifies a greater responsibility in the work—financial, administrative and spiritual. (Evangelist readers will recall that total organization to conform to government regulations became necessary in our Argentine work. This article records its completion.)

Steering Committee

A "Steering Committee" appointed by the Missionary Board in August of 1954 and composed of two ordained Argentine pastors, two laymen and your two missionaries worked through the preparation of the legal constitution to present to the governmental authorities and also prepared a church manual to govern our spiritual work.

In all these labors, the Missionary Board gave every possible help and encouragement and counsel. We appreciate their fine leadership and the spirit of brotherly love you have all shown toward the Brethren here. We feel confident that individuals and churches have been praying for us, for the Holy Spirit has been working.

Conference Representatives

Representatives from our congregations in Cordoba, Rosario, Victoria, Villa Constitucion, Gerli, and Nunez participated in the three-day meetings at the headquarters building on O'Higgins Street in Nunez in the Federal Capital. Lodging was given to nearly 20 in that building, while others were in homes. Meals were served to all the out-of-town guests at the headquarters. The week before the conference a wall was taken down between the two main rooms to provide a larger salon in which to hold the conference meetings. Our meeting hall now measures about 25 x 12 feet. Cots and mattresses were brought from Cordoba Camp and willing hands helped made everyone comfortable.

Business Meetings

Business meetings were held Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and afternoon and there was a fine spirit of cooperation, unity and optimism. The constitution was unanimously adopted as well as the church manual, and the Steering Committee was appointed to act as the Executive Committee until July 1957, when a full delegate conference will be held. The committee is composed of R. O. Byler, president; Juan Iztueta, vice president; June Byler Palaci, treasurer; Jane Byler, secretary; Jose Varela, assistant treasurer; and Norman Romanenghi, assistant secretary.

It was a high moment when each founding member signed the documents which put into "marcha" the Argentine Brethren Church. This does not mean a separation or an independent move away from the Brethren Missionary Board, but rather it marks a step toward larger and larger responsibilities in the work to be taken by the Argentine people and churches.

Programs

The spiritual program during the meetings included periods of song and praise between business sessions as well as the reading of greetings from Brethren who were unable to attend and a letter of greetings from Secretary Berkshire of the Missionary Board. On Friday night after prayer and devotions, the film, "The God of Creation," was shown to an audience of some sixty people, the seating capacity of our hall. On Saturday night, a Brethren Youth male quartet sang several hymns. Devotions were led by Pastor Labanca and then the film "Dust and Destiny" was viewed by the congregation of about 60 persons. Both of these films were translated into the Spanish language.

On Sunday morning there was a Sunday school with a student, Ruth Martin, and Pastor Jose Varela directing the two classes. Pastor Varela led the devotions for the service in the evening and expressed the appreciation of the out-of-town guests for the attentions shown by the Nunez congregation. The male quartet sang and also Mrs. June Palaci and Mr. Byler sang a duet, accompanied on the "Smithville folding organ" by Mrs. Byler. Sunday evening meeting witnessed a capacity crowd with many standing, despite a difficulty in the Nunez train line, which kept some of the folks from arriving in time for the opening. The sermon was preached by Brother Juan Iztueta on the theme, "Servants of God with the Spirit of His Son." He pointed out our need of Christ's spirit as a son: in obedience, in self-forgetfulness, and in service to others.

Resume

The whole conference was marked by a spirit of expectation, optimism, and rejoicing. All were happy to use and enjoy the Buenos Aires headquarters. We hope that by the time of the delegate conference in July 1957 there will be sufficient space and accommodations to make a larger and more general invitation to all our Argentine Brethren to participate in communion and fellowship. We were greatly limited this time, but the Lord provided willing persons to work and serve to make the conference a joyful occasion.

Expressions of Gratitude

We express our gratitude for all your help until the present. We continue to need the counsel and wisdom of

the Missionary Board. We request the prayer support of our Brethren. We need the help of more missionaries. And we shall continue to need some financial help. We are the "daughter" church—just coming "of age," but we are still not prepared fully to support ourselves. We are well aware of the sacrifice and work given to us by our "Mother Church," and we trust the future will hold real joy for all the Brethren as we increase in wisdom and stature and see new babes in Christ born into the family of God.

May the Lord bless and keep you all.

For the Brethren Church in Argentina,

Jane Byler, Secretary.

YOU CAN IMAGINE—

or can you—the delight of the office secretary in the Missionary Board office when, just a week after the last Ten Dollar Club Letter was mailed out, $1,027.00 had come in for Sarasota?

Of course, we hope this is just a beginning and that many more weeks will bring a similarly high average. One of the very heartening features in this response has been that a number of members are paying this call with **more than ten dollars.** (May their tribe increase!) Naturally, if you can afford only ten dollars, we are grateful and appreciative as well for that amount; however, the 20, 25, and 50 dollar amounts **do** swell the total much more rapidly. It seems we are getting a real vision of home mission work and developing a proportionate enthusiasm.

Confidentially, the office secretary meets the mail man at the door every day amost as violently as Dagwood Bumstead does, in her eagerness to receive more Ten Dollar Club contributions for Sarasota.

The New Parsonage

Letters from Sarasota indicate that their new parsonage is under way and should be ready for the pastor and family by September 1. Judging by the word picture of the parsonage, those people must **really** plan to treat the pastor family superbly; (it sounds like somebody's dream house.)

Keep Them Coming

Now, let's continue this fine Ten Dollar Club response so that we can get the church building started. Those Sarasota people are in the mood to work; let's keep them in the mood. (The office secretary promises to use restraint in greeting the mailman as he delivers your Ten Dollar Club gifts.)

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

"THOU, GOD, SEEST ME"

"Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world"—Matthew 28:20.

IN MY OWN MIND I am sure that the heading of our study is not intended as a warning against the danger of God's catching us in some misdemeanor, not as a threat to keep us mindful of God's power to send retribution for sin, but to remind us of the love that surrounds us all our days.

God is not with us just when we seek Him in prayer, or even when we go to His House to worship. He is with us always. It is man who removes himself from God, who shuts from his mind the consciousness of the divine presence. Me do not leave God outside the polling-booth when they go in to vote. He doesn't go around the corner where He cannot see us while we make a few dollars not quite honestly. We deny Him when we support a policy which may cause the death, on the other side of the world, of some children whom we have never seen. Very beautifully the poet has given the thought:

"I cannot put His presence by, I meet Him everywhere:
I meet Him in the country town, the busy market-square;
The Mansion and the Tenement attest His presence there.
He comes to break the barriers down raised up by barren creeds;
About the globe from zone to zone, like sunlight He proceeds;
He comes to give the world's starved heart the perfect love it needs."

The prophets told of His coming, down through the ages, fulfilling every promise made concerning Him. HE came: a babe in a Bethlehem manger. HE LIVED: a Wanderer in Judea. HE DIED: A KING upon the cross. HE ROSE: the fulfillment of a promise. HE LIVES: EMMANUEL, God with us. HE IS COMING AGAIN: Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

I am sorry for the men who do not read the Bible every day; I wonder why they deprive themselves of the strength and of the pleasure. It is one of the most singular books in the world, for every time you open it, some old text that you have read a score of times sudddenly beams with a new meaning. There is no other book that I know of, of which this is true; there is no other book that yields its meaning so personally, that seems to fit itself so intimately to the very spirit that is seeking its guidance.—Woodrow Wilson in the Christian Herald.

BOYHOOD DAYS ON THE OLD DEFFENBAUGH FARM

(Continued from Page 5)

across the road, which church is known today as "Olivet." I. D. Bowman of the Whole Gospel Mission, of Philadelphia was a popular Evangelist there. Mother at times sent almost her last dollar to the work there to aid in its support. Until her death she hearkened to the calls of like causes. H. L. Goughenour, along with Will Miller, preached there. N. W. Jennings held the first Evangelistic Meeting in the Berachah Church. We make no effort to list the names of those preaching there later than 1901. They were "legion."

One October night, or to be exact the 26th, mother and dad as well as the writer heard the old dinner bell ring out from the house on the hill. "Uncle" Sam and Aunt Mary had gone to Bethel to Church. When they returned home they found that "Aunt Betsy," his mother, had died in her sleep. A bell with its weird ringing in the night time or at a time not needed to call in the men for meal time, was a harbinger of evil news, indicating that help was needed. Mother and Dad returned to us badly frightened youngsters to tell us what had happened up on the hill. This death meant a change in the matter of location. There was another mouth to feed and additional room needed in the Ankrum family; Virgil had been born. So "Aunt Betsy's" furniture was moved out with the exception of that in one room which was always kept furnished for times such as threshing when room was needed for extra hands. The Ankrums moved the couple hundred feet in 1896 into the large brick house. This was the boyhood home of the Author until the Spring of 1901. The house today is no longer used though the roof lines and the walls are true. The porches have been permitted to fall down, but the house could soon be fitted for occupation. This house along with the frame house had been built nearby the free flowing soft water spring.

When the Author recently visited it the sand stone walls of the spring had fallen down, but the water ran as clear and cool as it has been doing for over a century. The brick house was built perhaps about the year 1812 when a number of houses were built of the same type of architecture. The house on the hill was likely of the same period. The large bank barn, which, along with numerous farm buildings cared for the needs of the lower farm, collapsed a few years ago during a heavy wind. It was a wonderful place for boys to play, climbing through its recesses. The Author looked with mingled fear and imagination when "Uncle Sam" pointed out the place in the barn where they lay in wait with their percussion cap rifles to guard the barn against General Morgan's Raiders when he was running loose in Southern Ohio. The Raiders did not get to that section of the state in the Civil War. The hills in the Author's boyhood were covered with orchards, peach and apple with monstrous cherry trees producing their fruit in abundance.

The nearest schools were "the Roberts," 2½ miles west toward Glenford and "Jockey Hollow," 2¾ miles south. When old enough to go to school it was to "The Roberts" school because it was closer. Most of the time we walked, but from time to time, drove. Ethel, almost three years older than the Author was considered old enough to be trusted with "Old Lize," the buggy horse. At first we drove only to Bradshaws, when Olive, now Mrs. Lee Coble, drove the rest of the way to school. The next year we were able, so it was thought, to drive it alone. So there were Ethel, Bertha, Ella and the writer in the buggy. Ella and the writer sat on a board across the bed by the dash-board riding backwards. Most of the trips were uneventful.

Naturally the older boys of the school made us the butt of jokes and called the buggy with its contents, "The Punkin Wagon," and one evening when we hitched up we saw written on the side of the buggy. "City Hack. Compound Medicine for sale." Twice we upset, one time near the Jacob Shelly place with the Bradshaw girls in the buggy and another time just Ethel, the writer and Earl. "Old Lize" was unconcerned and stood calmly until the men who were in the wagon which caused, in part, the upset buggy, set the buggy on its four wheels. "Old Lize," was "Aunt Betsy's" buggy horse and was much experienced.

Much of the time we walked by Bradshaws to the Roberts school. Field trips there in the spring were appreciated and trips to the nearby Indian Mound were often followed by a picnic lunch. The last day of school was usually a program, "speaking of pieces," and a "big dinner," which was appreciated most of all. One day on returning from school we decided to extend our journey home by the long way around by Harry Fluharts and Isaac Gordons. It was almost dark when we arrived home. All of us received whippings but Ethel who was saved by the fact that the Deffenbaughs had company. It was deeply regretted that there was not company also in the lower house.

Soon after the move into the brick house, another Ankrum family located on the Deffenbaugh farm, to work for Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary. This family consisted of Watt and Lydia Ankrum, daughters Anna, Etta, Abi and son Ross. Watt was an older brother of A. L. Ankrum. They moved into the frame house from which we had moved. Later on the house was divided and half of it moved to the western side of the farm and Watt Ankrums lived in it. The most of our associations were in the Perry County section. We were always glad to be on the 40 acres next to Frank Cobles, for Mary Coble had a cold spring and cookies when the youngsters went to the house.

There were two outstanding experiences in the Social life of the community. They were when we went to The Children's Exercises, always taking part of course, as they were put on in the Bethel church and later on in the Berachah Church. Minnie was the accomplished trainer. It was a long way to drive, eight miles to Bethel. But "Old Bell" and "Young Bell," the carriage horses jogged along in good time.

The night of the program the house would be crowded to the walls and it would be an occasion long to be remembered. Us boys were in misery. First we were unaccustomed to shoes in the summer time, and second, we were afraid that we would not "say our parts," correctly; then our unruly hair was plastered down in a manner to which we were not accustomed. The large crowds built up a large stock of self consciousness. When

THE BERACHAH CHURCH

the Children's Exercises were given in the Berachah Church, we were always made to sleep in the afternoon so we would keep awake during the exercises. Usually we did not sleep and could not have gone to sleep in or during the exercises had we tried.

We boys were permitted to take part in the Christmas Program in the Greenwood or "Conservative" Church. We always enjoyed this for we could have all the candy we wanted, as they treated. This was a rare thing. One time it was over done. The candy must have been old or something? ? ? Uncle Sam, when we moved to the Deffenbaugh farm, (it was just eleven years this side of the unfortunate division in the Church), always went to the Greenwood Church when there was not a service at Bethel. We boys, Earl and the writer went to Greenwood to Sunday School and Preaching from time to time. We always enjoyed listening to Rev. Samuel Orr preach. His face would shine and his white beard would shake when he preached his favorite sermon time and time again when "They let Paul down over the wall in a basket." He would race from one side of the pulpit to the other as he preached. Jason and Barbara Lampton Mack, along with their son Jacob, were members of the Greenwood Church.

In the spring of the year when the Roberts school was out, the writer and Earl were sent to the "Jocky Hollow," School. They had a Spring term of school. One term we had for our teacher, Miss Edith Fickle. She is now and has been for many years the wife of Rev. Quincy Leckrone of Thornville, Ohio. Sending us to school as long as possible meant less wear and tear on the nerves of our parents and others with whom we came in contact around the home. One of the days along in December we small fry always enjoyed, was when we got to school and the word went around that "tomorrow we will pen out the teacher to make him treat." We were certain that unless this was done there would be no Christmas treat. The next day usually found the windows barred and the door locked when the teacher got there. Threats had no effect and the teachers took it in their stride, likely finding the day more enjoyable without their charges than with them. Human nature has not made any remarkable changes over the years.

There were "Home Cures" for various afflictions and also to ward them off. No money was spent for Doctors, except in case of emergency. So when spring came there came the "Sassafras Tea," the Sulphur and Molasses. Then when there was a threat of "catching" something, we were supplied with a small cloth sack to which a cord was attached long enough to place around our necks and permit the sack to be hidden under our shirt fronts. The possession of the "Charm," though not visible was not any secret because it contained Asafetida. One day as all of us consisting of Ethel, Bertha and Ella Bradshaw, Ross Ankrum, Earl Ankrum and the writer took a short cut down over the hill across Noah Shelly's farm on our return from The Roberts school our shiny dinner buckets caused the sheep to feel that they were to be salted. So they came running and "Baaing" and we also went running, but not "Baaing." We made it to the old rail fence as the sheep came up and wondered what all the excitement was about and why did they not receive the accustomed salt from the shiny buckets.

The visitors who came from the various states to visit the Deffenbaughs were all well studied by us youngsters. We accompanied them to the old fish pond down below the house and near by the Hydraulic Ram, when they desired to fish. We were always underfoot.

Almost every spring when the corn was planted a day off was taken and a real fishing took place. We youngsters were too small to go but when they returned from "The Reservoir," or "Buckeye Lake," the washtub full of Sunfish or Goggle Eyes, indicated that the day was a success. This was an annual affair. The old fish pond was a fine place for us boys to "go swimming," in the Summer time, though at that time none of us could swim. It was here one lazy afternoon in the late summer time that "Uncle Sam" rushed breathlessly out of the nearby corn field shouting, "Indians, Indians." Having been brought up on tales of bloody raids we lost no time in going away from that spot in a hurry. There was no time to dress as we rushed through the nearby cornfield. If the Indians had caught us they would have had to have traveled some. This brought many a chuckle from Uncle Sam as he told the tale time and time again. He was entitled to it as we boys at times made life miserable for him.

Life in those days was seldom dull. The Sundays afforded us a time to visit with those not habitually occupants of the farm. When we could not be found at home, we were up on the hill with Deffenbaughs. In fact we would have spent more time there had we been permitted. There were always stories to be read to us and cookies from Aunt Mary's cookie jar. She made a special sugar cookie which is made to this day by her daughter Ethel, and may we add, still enjoyed by the writer. There were picture books and magazines of interest. One day there was a near tragedy on a summer's list of experiences. "Old Barney," a big white footed bay horse

was grazing in the yard. Earl ventured too close to him and "Old Barney," whaled away and kicked him on the head laying open his scalp. Minnie hurriedly had "Skip," the fast buggy horse hitched up and gathering him up rushed him to Dr. George Forquer's office in Glenford where the gash was sewed up. They brought Earl back, put him to bed, gave him fruit, cookies, picture books and the greatest of attention. He was the center of all attraction and a hero. The writer felt left out in the attention showed the younger brother, and so to share, we followed "Old Barney" around, but he failed to cooperate.

There must be special angels
For watching little boys—
Cherubim and seraphim
Who aren't averse to noise;
Who know the fun of sliding down
Steep roofs, and climbing trees;
The lure of angleworms in Spring;
Who don't mind bottled bees.

Seraphim and cherubim
Who bring lads safely through
All the mischief and the grief
They somehow get into.
Yes, tall, winged guardians must be
Included in God's plan,
Else how would any little boy
Grow up to be a man?

—Ethel Romig Fuller.

"End of part one."

St. James, Maryland.

REPORT OF THE
CENTRAL PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE
to the
68TH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH

The CENTRAL PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE met three times during the past year: on February 28, 1956, April 10, 1956 and on June 7, 1956.

The following motions and decisions were made during these meetings:

"We recommend to General Conference that this committee shall become a standing committee to be called "the CENTRAL PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE."

A very important decision made by this committee is: "That this CENTRAL PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE relies upon the MANUAL OF PROCEDURE as adopted by the General Conference of Brethren Churches of 1915 for its guiding principals in its deliberations and decisions."

"The following suggestions were agreed upon as FUNCTIONS of this Committee:

"1. Co-ordination of programs of the Boards and auxiliaries of the Church.

"2. The committee is to plan in areas of denominational activities which are not covered by any now-existing board or auxiliary.

"3. This committee should make suggestions of implementing plans as formulated by this Committee. It is assumed that this committee will report annually to General Conference for its approval of the work of the Committee."

Motions relative to these functions as outlined above are as follows:

"That we encourage the continued cooperation of the Publications Board and the Sunday School Association in the publication of Brethren quarterlies and Sunday School literature."

"That the Publications Board look into the possibility of Brethren Emphasis lessons being incorporated into the Sunday School quarterlies, and that this be a continued program."

"That the on-going program of the Brethren Church demands a co-ordinated promotional program, therefore we recommend that the Conference publish a brochure setting forth the Brethren Church as to beliefs and activities. It is assumed that the various boards will supply information with reference to their respective work."

"We recommend an every member enlistment in the local Church in presenting both the local and denominational program. It is presumed that the local church shall prepare a financial program or budget and this with the denominational program shall be presented by locally trained visitors to every individual member of the Church.

A letter was received from the California District relative to a more co-ordinated program among the districts of our Denomination. After some discussion relative to this matter, the following statement was prepared

"The CENTRAL PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE reviewed the recommendations of the California Conference relative to having the moderator of the General Conference visit each district conference.

1. We commend the California District for giving consideration to a basic need, and for memorializing

General Conference, according to the Manual of Procedure.

2. It is the opinion of this Committee that there is a definite need for strengthening our General Conference and district ties. We will have specific recommendations to present to the General Conference concerning this need."

"The CENTRAL PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE recognizes the imperative need to strengthen the reciprocal relationships among the General Conference, the districts and the local congregations.

There is a need in the Brethren Church—

1. For cultivating a common mind of uniform procedure among the ministers and organizations.

2. For presenting a common approach in many phases of the spiritual work of the Brethren Church—e. g. Evangelism, Stewardship, Family Life, etc.

3. For co-ordinating the interests of the denominational boards.

4. For launching a unified promotion of all denominational interests.

5. For the preparation of a brochure setting forth the total program of the Brethren Church.

In the opinion of this committee, in the years when a representative traveled to the Churches, the church made the most progress—e. g. Bi-centenary year when Dr. Charles Bame traveled and the years when the General Secretary visited for the W. M. S. and the S. M. M., therefore:

Because of this need, this committee recommends the employment of a full time executive secretary.

This committee recommends that it be charged with the responsibility to further study and to prepare specific recommendations for the implementation of the previous recommendation at the next general conference."

A motion was made that the following recommendations be made:

"1. Feeling the vital need of a Board of Evangelists in each District, we urge the Districts not having such to appoint the same according to the recommendations of the MANUAL OF PROCEDURE adopted in 1915—Chapter 1, Section 3, Article III.

"2. We recommend each District Conference reactivate the Board of Evangelists according to their nine duties as listed in the MANUAL OF PROCEDURE.

"3. We recommend that all members of the District Boards of Evangelists meet with the Polity Committee for clarifying of their duties according to Chapter 1, Sec. 3, Article III of the MANUAL OF PROCEDURE."

"This committee requests the Co-ordinating Finance Board to study the advisibility of establishing uniform annuity rates among our boards and institutions."

A motion was made that—"The Ministerial Examining Boards of the Districts meet with the Polity Committee for clarification of their duties according to the MANUAL OF PROCEDURE, and that a study be made of the Questionnaire for Examination of Candidates for Ordination and Licensures as adopted by the National Brethren Ministerial Association."

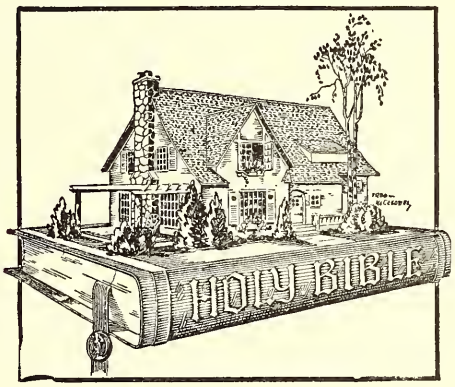
A motion was made "That we recommend that the Districts use the procedure of memorializing the general conference through the Committee on the Spiritual State of Churches, according to the MANUAL OF PROCEDURE, Chapter 2, Sec. 2, Article V.

Respectfully Submitted

Spencer Gentle, Secretary.

* * *

Members who have sat on the Committee are: L. V. King, Spencer Gentle, Clayton Berkshire, E. M. Riddle, Mrs. Clarence Fairbanks, W. S. Benshoff, Woodrow Brant, Glenn L. Clayton, Virgil Meyer, W. E. Ronk, Delbert Flora, H. D. Hunter, Carol Berkshire.



THE BEST BUILDING

When one would build a house to stand,
He builds upon the solid rock,
He takes the best at his command;
He piles the granite, block on block.
No soft shale rock shall have a place
In inner or in outer face.
Well-tested rock shall polished be,
For lasting structure—don't you see?

Build thou for time—on solid rock.
Give thought and care; build broad and deep.
Then tempest wild, with rudest shock,
Shall harmlessly around thee sweep.
With knowledge gained, and purpose grand,
The ills of life thou canst command.
For all their power thou shalt be free;
Thy power the greater—don't you see?

—Author Unknown.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

MARTHA, UNENCUMBERED

Too busy, Lord, to voice the hymns of praise
That daily well within me, fill my days
With precious, sweet communion; thus have I
Been long content to let the years slip by . . .

Too busy serving Thee, Lord, and my own,
A house to keep, a call to make; unknown
To others all this joy in Thee I find
Kept in the secret reaches of the mind.

So now Thou sayest, draw thee, child, apart,
Release thy soul, express your fervent heart
Long cumbered with much serving; give it wings,
THERE WILL BE TIME to voice these sacred things!

So in this midnight hour of wakeful pain
I pledge my life anew to Thee again . . .
And be the sifting deep, the testing long,
The nights shall now be filled with UTTERED song:

Articulate at last this earth-bound clod,
O may man heed, and seek to know, my God!

—Rose Marie Fink.

MARTHA, cumbered, probably did not do much singing (Luke 10:40). The heathen asked the Jews in captivity for songs, but they did not see fit to testify (Psalm 137:4). What kind of a singing Christian are you (Psalm 40:3)? Have you ever made the widow's heart to sing (Job 29:13)? Have you ever sung the Gospel in prison (Matt. 25:36)? Remember that environment and circumstances cannot still the new song in the heart of the redeemed (Acts 16:23-25)! The early martyrs went to the lions and to the stake—singing to Jesus (Psalm 34:1).

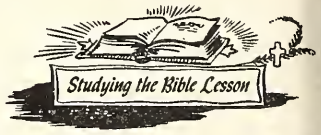
How fervent in spirit are you in serving the Lord (Psalm 34:2)? How much is God praised and glorified by your singing (Psalm 50:23)? blithe spirit (Psalm 66:16)? jubilant soul (Psalm 100:2; 2 Chron. 29:30)? "Praise ye the Lord" and the injunction to sing and give thanks are found many times in the Bible (Psalm 150).

How many lost souls and discouraged saints have been reclaimed, inspired, helped, encouraged by the songs of God flowing from your heart (Psalm 40:3)? How much living water, spirituality, by-products of the Holy Spirit, flow from your lips and heart each day (Psalm 145:2)? Christian brother and sister, is God pleased with your singing (Psalm 69:30, 31)? Do you know what became of the ancients who neglected to sing praises unto God (Rom. 1:21)? Do your children sing with you (Psalm, 34:3), or do they sing the songs of the Devil (Exodus 32:17, 18)?

Have you lost your song? If so, you need the resolve to sing (Psalm 57:7). Take instruction in singing from the Apostle Paul (Col. 3:10; Eph. 5:19). Learn to offer the sacrifice of praise, the fruit of the lips (Heb. 13:15). Take singing lessons from David (Psalm 149:1). Learn to play before God with instruments (1 Chron. 13:8). Above all, sing with the spirit and the understanding (1 Cor. 14:15). The drunkards sing (Psalm 69:12); the lustful sing (Amos 6:4, 5); fools sing (Eccles. 7:5). But only the child of God has a real right to sing (Exodus 15:2). God gives you songs (Job 35:10). He gives you abundant reason for singing (Psalm 13:6). So, SING "with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Col. 3:16). Study the history of music (Job 38:47). Study the songs of angels (Luke 2:13, 14). Get ready to sing in Heaven (Rev. 15:3; Psalm 87:7). Everybody in Heaven will have a song (Rev. 5:9)!

"I sing for hearts that ache and break,
I sing for hearts that are true;
O world so vast, O world so wide,
I sing my song for you!"

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson



Lesson for July 22, 1956

WE BELONG TO A GREAT COMPANY

Lesson: Hebrews 11:32-12:2

THE GREAT ENGLISH CLASSIC, **Fox's Book of Martyrs**, is "a history of the lives, sufferings, and triumphant deaths of the early Protestant Christian martyrs." **It depicts the struggles of men and women who desired spiritual freedom at any cost!**

One example from the book will suffice. In the second century A. D., Polycarp, the venerable bishop of Smyrna, was apprehended by order of the governmental authorities because he was a Christian. The proconsul said to him: "Swear, and I will release thee;—reproach Christ." To which Polycarp replied: "Eighty and six years have I served Him, and He never once wronged me; how then shall I blaspheme my King, Who hath saved me?" After being pierced with a sword, he was burned at the stake.

Polycarp was but one of many who has belonged to that great company of Christians "who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions . . . " (Heb. 11:33).

The writer of this matchless "Faith Chapter" was endeavoring to encourage Jewish Believers, undergoing severe tribulation and trial because of their faith, to stand fast. By referring to the Old Testament Saints who had gone on before, he wanted these New Testament Saints to take heart, and be assured that they too could triumph "by faith."

Notice a few of the Heroes of Faith referred to but not specifically mentioned by name: "Who through faith . . . stopped the mouths of lions (Daniel), Quenched the violence of fire (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) . .

Vomen received their dead raised to life again (Widow f Zarephath—Shunammite Woman)."

Concerning the Heroes of Faith mentioned in Hebrews 1, it could be said, and rightly so, "Of whom the world as not worthy." They won God's approval, and yet "reeived not the promise: God having provided some better ning for us, that they without us should not be made erfect" (11:39-40).

"What is the 'better thing?' We believe that our eavenly calling, our membership in the Body of Christ, that 'better thing.' Oh, let us cherish it! Since the lives f these great believers in Chapter 11, Christ the Son f God has come, has died and been raised; and we died ith Him, and were raised with Him into 'heavenly places' nd 'seated' there with Him." *

We belong to a great company of believers. Many have one before us. They kept the faith. We must too!

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with great a cloud of witnesses . . . " What then? What hould it mean to us that others have been victorious n the Christian Life?

"Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race hat is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and nisher of our faith . . . " (12:1-2).

"By faith" we can run the Christian Race of Life. "By aith" we can sidestep every obstacle and go on to win he prize. "By faith" we can look to Jesus Christ, and nd He will take us through!

Newell, William R., **Hebrews Verse by Verse**, Moody Press, Chicago, Ill., 1947, p. 397.

News From Our Churches

REV. VIRGIL MEYER VISITS LANARK

Still fresh in our memories is Rev. Virgil Meyer's visit o Lanark during the week before Easter. Rev. Meyer howed pictures of his Holy Land Tour with lectures ach night. The time he spent in Lanark went swiftly or us and was all too short. The pictures being in color, hey made the Holy Land very real to us at the time of ear when all Christians think more about that part of he world and the events that occurred there.

Services were called promptly at seven o'clock and were ismissed exactly at eight to accomodate the school children and as a result crowds were good with many children in attendance. The Milledgeville Brethren were represented every night also. Twice 'coffee-time' was held in the church dining-rooms after the service giving everyone a chance to visit with Rev. Meyer, to ask him questions, and to renew old friendships.

As a special favor to the school children and their teachers Rev. Meyer visited the grade school at their request and showed pictures to large groups there.

Young and old alike appreciated his work with us and he will be welcome at any time to continue showing those many scenes he omitted on this visit because of lack of time.

Mrs. Willard Rahn, Ch. Corr.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO

Special services were held at Smithville on April 18-29. Rev. Clarence Stogsdill was the guest speaker and brought very fine messages. His sermons were inspiring, helping, and challenging.

Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Barton, of the Madisonberg E. U. B. Church, directed the congregational singing and also provided a special number each evening. Their services were truly appreciated. Also each evening a special number was presented from someone or a group in the church.

There were groups present occasionally from some of the area Brethren churches as well as groups from other churches in the community.

The average attendance for the twelve services was 107.

The pastor and evangelist made many calls during the ten days of special services. The spiritual import of such calls and special services cannot be estimated. We hope that it has inspired the people to more dedicated and consecrated service to their Lord. Time will tell.

Eight Juniors accepted Christ on Easter Sunday. Three adults became members since then.

We have had the interior of our church decorated recently.

Gene Caskey, a seminary student, is our assistant pastor for the summer months. He is also directing a Youth Prayer Meeting on Wednesday evenings.

We had our Mother-Daughter Banquet in May with Jean Lersch as our guest speaker. She told about their work in Europe. The Laymen had their banquet recently and Phil Lersch was their guest speaker. He too, told of their interesting work in Europe.

Mrs. Hazel Mast, Corresponding Secretary.

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

GIRLS WORKING—SLOW DOWN and READ

THE BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS are this week finishing up a month of service in Kentucky. These girls—Susan Miller, Bonnie Swihart, Joann Rummel, and Beverly Summy—have done excellent work, causing nothing but good reports to be returned to our home office. One of the two weeks spent at Lost Creek was spent in teaching Bible School; the other in helping with the direction of the Kentucky Camp.

The first week at Krypton found them with rolled-up sleeves doing some cleaning and arranging in preparation for the Krypton Bible School, which was directed by them, under the supervision of Miss Margaret Lowery, the second week of their stay. Crusader activities will be terminated for this summer with a school at Fremont, Ohio, July 23—August 5.

LOOK TWICE

dnalhsa ni ecnerefnoc lanoitan ot emoc

This probably looks like a printer's mistake, but that is not the practice of our printers. Read it backwards and it will make very good sense for Brethren people.

Dr. J. Garber Drushal promises to be a very challenging speaker for our young people at the Brethren Youth Conference. But the adult attendants will also have an opportunity to hear his messages when they attend the Vesper service every evening at 6:45 in Redwood Stadium. Here are his subjects for these twilight messages.

Tuesday ..... "Jonathan"
Wednesday ..... "Mephibosheth"
Thursday ..... "Daniel"
Friday ..... "Ezra"
Saturday ..... "Nehemiah"

With the exception of Wednesday, could you ask for anything more concise? Plan to come for singing and inspiration, but PLEASE—be on time. Come at 6:44 P. M.

HEY KIDS! Rev. John Byler, who does such a good job directing Camp Zion for Ohio campers, has agreed to direct a craft program for you one hour each day at National Conference. He will have materials for billfolds, change purses, key cases, pocketbooks, and whistle-carriers (I couldn't think of lanyards). This addition will give you something constructive to do in your idle hours (between six and seven in the morn). This leather-work can be stained and waxed for long durability. Be sure to try your hand at it. See Byler when you arrive. We might even have General Conference Delegates making lanyards during the business sessions, if the idea catches.

OUR T. V. PARTIES at conference will be the newes yet. Free popcorn for all.

GEORGE WASHINGTON ...

SAID, "The perpetuity of this nation depends upo the religious education of the young." Your home, you church, and YOU are religious educators. Ashland Col lege desires to help you in this task. Encourage you children to attend your accredited school, A. C.

LINWOOD PARK

Many Ohio Brethren Youth are participating in a Dis trict Brethren Youth Conference this week at Linwoo Park on Lake Erie. This is in connection with the Ohi District Conference and the two programs have bee closely integrated. Does your district take care of it youth at these district gatherings with a special pro gram geared for them? Perhaps more of them would de sire to accompany you to district conference if yo planned something just for them. Watch soon for a re port of this venture in caring for Brethren Youth in spir itual matters.

KEYSTONERS

Brethren Youth in Pennsylvania also will have an op portunity to attend their own sessions at Pennsylvani District Conference next week, July 16-19. Your progra will be held in the Morrellville Church of the Brethre while the District Conference is in session in the John town III Church. Don't pass up this opportunity to kno more about "The Glory of Service." Check the June 30t issue of the **Brethren Evangelist** for a complete confe ence program. I'll see ya there!

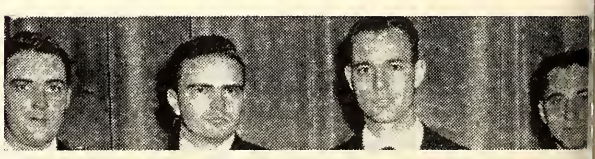
"If you want to stay young, associate with young pe ple; if you want to feel your age, try to keep up wit them."

WHERE DID HE GO?

It is unknown where "he" went, but maybe you'll s the youth director at one of the following locations:

July 12-15	Linwood Park, Ohio District Conference
July 16-19	Johnstown III, Pennsylvania District Co ference
July 22	Elkhart, Indiana
Then	Home again, home again, jig-a-de-jig.

If you haven't seen the FISH BOWL, you ought get one of your own.



EXPECT MORE NEWS ABOUT THESE HEADLINE

Bring the whole family to Conference next month

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

TAKE TIME TO LIVE THE ABUNDANT LIFE

"I HAVE COME that ye might have life and have it ıore abundantly." We have all heard and read these vords of Jesus many times. And yet, as I pondered that hrase the other day, I wondered just what that abun-ant life meant or could mean as far as life on this earth s concerned. Too many times, to too many people, my-elf included, life consists mainly in the **abundance** of hings accomplished. While this is worthy, for certainly ve should and can not be indolent and slovenly, is it all here is to life?

So many times my mother has said to me, "Take it a ittle easier. Take time to enjoy your children while hey're little. They won't be children very long." And I hink "Oh yes, you can say that, now that your chil-ren are grown up and you can do your housework uickly without having to do ten thousand things over gain every day. You can go and do what you want to o." But she is right. We must take time to live and en-oy life as we go along, or we find ourselves merely xisting in a dull world that consists only of routine, ommon-place things and work, work and more work. Meanwhile, we become duller and duller persons. We be-in to wonder what happened to all those bright dreams ve had, perhaps ten years ago. With the endless, vicious ircle of getting up, getting dressed, dressing the chil-ren, making beds, cooking, washing dishes, getting toys ut and putting them away again, cleaning, washing, roning, mending, sewing, planting, weeding, painting, narketing, plus rehearsing and planning for many church nd musical activities, to say nothing of watching the hildren and caring for all their little wants and needs nd cuts and bruises, on and on ad infinitum; it seems ometimes as if life were just one constant merry-go-ound of work and no end in sight.

Well, how can we relieve this? First of all, if we will ake time in the morning before we start our daily ma-hine to thank God for a full life and for the ability to vork and the talents to do many things; then ask Him or **Strength** to do our daily tasks, for **Grace** and **Love** to lo them graciously, for **Peace** which comes from walking vith Him and doing His will, and for **Serenity** which we vill attain through the combination of all these virtues. Then perhaps, we can read a passage from His Word, ısking God to speak to us, and from there a daily thought rom "The Quiet Hour" or some such booklet. Through-ut the day, don't forget to **Look** for beauty each day (God's extras for the abundant life) and to thank Him or it, in a flower, a tree, a green lawn, a wisp of white loud in a blue sky, a sunrise or sunset, fields of golden grain swaying in the breeze, the glint of the sun on your child's shining hair. Sometimes it helps to step outdoors and **Smell** how fragrant and clean the air can be, or to actually **Feel** the blessedness of rain as it falls from the heavens Then, **Listen** for the loveliest sounds—the song of a meadowlark, the call of a bob-white or the cheep-cheep of baby birds, the laughter of children. Have you ever listened as they talk to themselves in a world of make-believe? And don't forget how relaxing it may be to listen to some great music even as you're slaving over a hot stove or sink.

Finally, let us remember that when we do all these seemingly unbearable tasks, we are creating beauty for someone else and this can apply to almost everything we, who are merely housewives (ha! ha!), do. Did you ever think how beautiful the following things may look to your husband? (Though 99 times out of a 100 he won't mention it to you):

An apple pie (or some other kind)
With tender, flaky crust,
A juicy steak,
A freshly-baked cake,
A house just freed of dust.

A newly-ironed shirt (with buttons all on)
Makes life seem well worth living.
The table set,
His needs all met,
And every day is Thanksgiving.

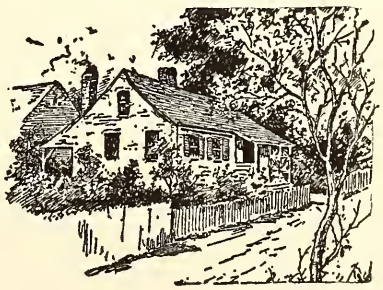
Sometimes we spend hours wastefully, in anguish over things we wish we could have done differently—of opportunities wasted, of time frittered away in foolishness, or in pursuit of some unworthy object. Perhaps, we have bungled many things but blaming ourselves and dwelling morbidly on past errors helps no one and nothing. Ask God's forgiveness and remember Paul's words "Forgetting those things which are behind, I press on toward the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus. . ."

This little poem, with which I'd like to close, started my whole train of thought, when I found it yesterday. I'd like to share it with you.

"We cannot change yesterday
That is quite clear.
Nor begin on tomorrow
Until it is here . . .
So all that is left
For you and for me
Is to make today
As sweet as can be."

Anon.

Mrs. Leo C. Jones,
Ashland, Ohio



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The Brethren EVANGELIST

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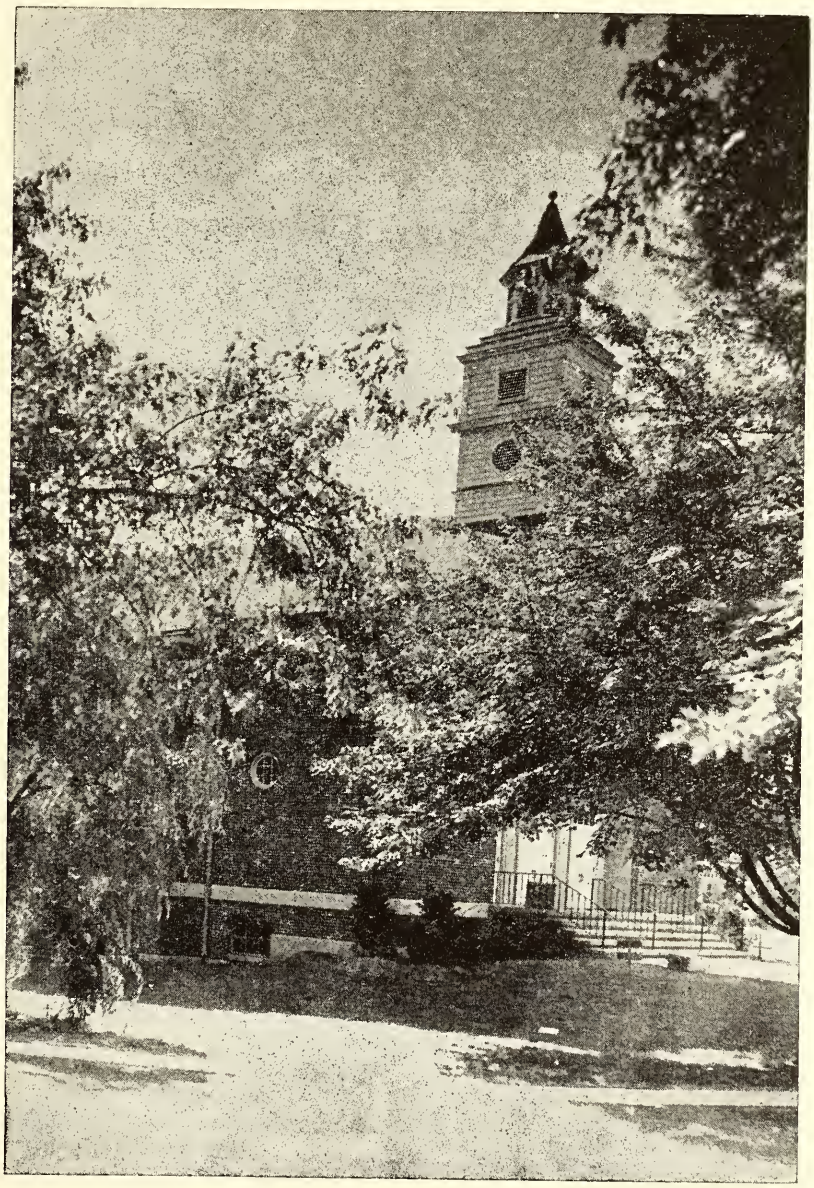
HOLY BIBLE

General Conference Program n this Issue



Memorial Chapel, Ashland College

OL. LXXVIII July 21, 1956 No. 29

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Items of General Interest

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The St. James bulletin informs us that Ordination Services for John Mills, whose ordination was approved by the Ministerial Examining Board of the Southeastern District, recently, will be held in the St. James Church the evening of July 22nd.

At a recent business meeting of the St. James Brethren, it was decided to complete the redecoration of the downstairs of the parsonage, along with other needed repairs to the property.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Gideon Representative, Mark Heffner, of Westminster, Maryland, was guest speaker in the Linwood Church the morning of July 1st.

Pastor Bruce C. Shanholtz conducted services at the County Jail the afternoon of July 1st.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. The Laymen's Public Service was held the evening of July 15th.

ASHLAND, OHIO, GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Brother H. William Fells writes: "The Mid-Week Prayer Services and Bible Study, with Rev. Edwin Boardman, of Ashland Seminary Faculty, as our leader in the study of the book of Daniel, have been very well attended, with several outsiders attending besides faithful. The closing session of these very valuable st ies was held July 4th.

"Our series of Sunday Evening Services has been m ing along nicely. I brought three messages on the s jects: 'Why I Am A Christian,' 'Why I Am A Protesta and 'Why I Am A Brethren.' And now we are hav Panel Discussions on the same. Sunday evening, July we had Rev. W. H. Miley of the Ashland College F ulty, Charles Campbell, Insurance man of Ashland, Edgar Swinehart, a fine Christian farmer from near A land, take part as the panel for the subject, 'Why I a Christian.' It was very interesting.

"We have had two, one adult and one child, con Christ and are now awaiting baptism."

(Continued on Page 15)

DR. EDWARD G. MASON

DR. EDWARD GLENN MASON, former President of Ashland College, died in Samaritan Hospital, Ashland, Ohio, on Friday morning, July 6th, having suffered a stroke a short time before. Born July 31, 1882, he was 73 at the time of his death.

Dr. Mason first served Ashland College as professor of history; was named Dean in 1930, and served as President from 1939 to 1945. He remained active on the faculty of the College until his retirement in 1952. Dr. Mason was General Conference Moderator, 1941-42.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon in the Park Street Brethren Church, Ashland, of which he was a member, conducted by Pastor Clarence Fairbanks, assisted by Ashland College Dean L. E. Lindower; burial was in Fair Haven Cemetery, near Lattasburg.

Our sympathies, and assurance of eternal hope in Christ are expressed to the wife and children who survive.—W. S. B.

ANNUAL SHAREHOLDER'S MEETING OF THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING COMPANY

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the shareh ers of the Brethren Publishing Company be held Wednesday morning, August 15, 1956 9:45 o'clock, E. S. T., at Ashland, Ohio, in Conference Auditorium, in connection with General Conference of the Brethren Church provided in the Code of Regulations, Article Section 1.

Article II of the Code of Regulations st that "All members of the National Confere of the Brethren Churches in good standing, known and hereinafter designated as The Sh holders." This notice constitutes official no to all shareholders.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive ports of the officers of the Corporation, to Directors and to care for such unfinished or business as the shareholders may direct in cordance with the Code of Regulations.

J. E. Stookey, Presiden
R. L. Hoffman, Secretar

Date of meeting—August 15, 1956.

The Editor's Pulpit

General Conference---1956

BEGINNING ON PAGE EIGHT, this issue of the **Evangelist** contains the program for the 8th General Conference of the Brethren Church.

This program is more than an amassed group f events for an assembled group of delegates and riends. It is a climax, a high point, an energizing ower for the members of a Denomination. Speakrs and leaders will bring to the assembled audences the fruits of their thinking and labors. he Denomination, in the year, and years, ahead vill reflect that which takes place as a result of his program.

There have been some notable advances and ains this past Conference year. A year ago, in vriting relative to the coming 1955 General Conerence, this scribe recognized that as the Brethen Denomination, we did have problems—probems known for years, which we had been unvilling to face. It was our hope and prayer that erhaps the 1955 Conference would be the one n which the Brethren would face squarely their roblems and do something about them. (Ediorial—**The Brethren Evangelist,** July 16, 1955.)

No one was happier nor any more pleased than vas this scribe when "something was done." rom Moderator Brant's Address to the Conference, the efforts of various official groups to ffect proper legislation, to the intense reponse of the delegates to the program finally dopted, there was every indication that "this vas the year." The past eleven months has provn the correctness of that which was done.

Several things have evidenced themselves since ast Conference. First, a genuine willingness of he various Board and Auxiliary leaders to work ogether more than ever before. A better understanding of each other's programs and work has reated a bond of unity and fellowship between eaders. Second, a strong desire to correlate the rograms of the Boards and Auxiliaries in a united program of Christian advance. The above has resulted in part, from an awakened awareness that something could be done, and in part from the work of the Central Planning and Co-Ordinating Committee. (The summary report of this Committee appeared in last week's **Evangelist.**)

Perhaps not all that was done this past year will show in the statistics, but it certainly shows in the spirit. This will be evident even more as we gather next month in the 1956 General Conference.

Last year, we encouraged the Brethren to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our Conference. We were convinced that in the Spirit of the Lord, under the power of the Holy Spirit, and through much prayer and through the exercise of Christian grace, many of our problems could be solved. We cannot improve upon that suggestion this year.

Thus we are urging Brethren everywhere, in the few weeks ahead, to again spend much time in prayer for another outpouring of the Holy Spirit, so that this 1956 Conference might be a testimony to His power and grace. In this spirit, what we do, what we say, and what we plan to do in His will in the coming year, will redound to His glory, and will see a more effective and active witness of the Brethren to His saving grace. Then, that which has been gained, will not be lost. W. S. B.

NO EVANGELIST NEXT WEEK

In keeping with our policy of printing fifty issues of THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST a year, we are dropping next week's issue, in conformity to our mailing permit. The next EVANGELIST which you will receive will be that of August 4th.

FIRST LET US GET the setting for our lesson this morning, then we will consider the verses as we go along. We read in the preceding verses of that wonderful experience of the disciples and the people with Jesus. The disciples had brought the news of the beheading of John the Baptist, and Jesus was very sad and departed into a desert place, at the foot of one of the great mountains near the Sea of Galilee. But He was not permitted to be alone. While He and the disciples were crossing the sea in the ship a great multitude of people had gone around the lake by the shore road to meet Him when He arrived on the other side. After He had taught them, and the evening was come His disciples would have sent the people away, but Jesus said it was not necessary for them to go away. And he told the disciples how to seat the people upon the grass. And He blessed the five loaves and two fishes and the multitudes were fed and twelve baskets of fragments were remaining.

Here, I believe the people and the disciples were much as Peter was on the Mount of Transfiguration, they would have built a tabernacle and they would have stayed forever right there. But Jesus had more lessons for them to learn, and we all know that there is little work done on a mountain top, or in a desert place. You and I, in our mountain top experiences, also have a desire to stay thus with the Lord forever. How long has it been since you have had a mountain top experience with the Lord? How my memory works when the days of my teens come back and the thoughts of that week that was my privilege to spend in the mountains of California with a group of His disciples and HIM. We were so close and we all desired to stay just that way.

But Jesus constrained His disciples to get into a ship and to go before Him unto the other side (the place of work) while He sent the multitude away. And even so He sent all of us away from that summer camp, high in the mountains among the big trees of California, back to the valley and to the place of work. And we are sure that many of you have been constrained to get back on this sea of life and return to the place of work.

And we are just as sure that Jesus did the same for you as He did for the disciples that day. He departed into a mountain to pray. What a blessed privilege to know that we have an Advocate with the Father, even Jesus Christ the righteous, who ever maketh intercession for us. We have an High Priest who knows every point

TOILING IN ROWING

Rev. H. William Fells

in which we are tempted and tried. And in our Scripture for these moments we see Him praying and watching the disciples. And in the fourth watch of the night, just when it was the darkest, just when it seemed that the small bark must be capsized in this great angry sea. When the waves were dashing high, so high, it was just then that Jesus came unto them. But they were concerned with their plight and did not recognize Him; they said it is a spirit. And I can see Jesus as he heard this word. Perhaps He even walked away from the boat to test them even further, but in a moment we hear the wonderful words, Be of good cheer; it is I, be not afraid. Oh, what a relief to hear these wonderful words. But don't you know, the disciples were so wrought up that they could not accept even this. And then we hear that impetuous one speak, "Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water." We should not bargain with God, and yet the Scriptures tell us, in 1st John, to test the spirits to see if they be of God. When these disciples were so distraught and anxious for their very lives perhaps it was good that Peter should respond in this way. Remember his response to the first call of the Lord, "Peter, come and follow me and I will make you to become fishers of men." Peter had laid down his nets and left all to follow Him.

And again he hears the words of the Master, "Come!" and we see Peter stepping out of the boat and walking upon the waters to the Lord. And here we would remind you of the conditions. Waves dashing almost as high as Peter was himself. The wind roaring in his ears. Perhaps the heavens rent with flashes of lightning and the great claps of thunder. But he had power to walk upon the water, because the One who had been given all power,—that is what Jesus had said, All power is given unto me—had bid him to do so. And as long as Jesus was the center of his thoughts, as long as he kept his eyes turned upon Him and looked full in his wonderful face he continued toward Him. He was almost to Him when he turned for just a second, perhaps to think, just look what I am doing, and in that second he began to sink. He had come too far to reach back to the boat, there was only one thing to do and he did it, he cried out, "Lord, save me." And the Lord

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(One in a series of radio messages given over WATG, Ashland, Ohio, during March 1956.)

reached out His hand and caught him saying, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

The wind ceased as soon as Jesus came into the boat and one of the other Gospel writers says immediately they reached the land where they were going.

What a lesson for us today. Are you toiling in rowing today? Has Jesus asked you to come to Him across a great chasm or body of water, somewhere you can not see your way? Just turn your eyes upon Him and look full in His wonderful face and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace. Peter was human just as you are. What the Lord did for him He can do for you. O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? Invite Jesus into your bark and reach the point of your landing, or victory immediately. Let Him help in you as you Toil in rowing.

Ashland, Ohio.

CONFERENCE HOUSING HEADQUARTERS WILL BE AT JACOBS' HALL

Seventy rooms with twin beds will be available. Both men and women will be accommodated. Six rooms on first floor will be reserved for women delegates who have difficulty climbing stairs.

All Conference meals will be served in Jacobs' Hall dining-room. A commodious lounge is arranged for your comfort.

Sisterhood girls will continue to room at Allen Hall.

Glenn Haller Court will not be open this year for Junior boys. Approximately twenty boys can be accommodated at the Junior and Senior houses.

Rates—Rooms

Jacobs' Hall room $1.00 a night per person, two in a room
Allen Hall room ..$.50 a night per person, two in a room.
Sr. and Jr. House $.50 a night per person, two in a room.

Sisterhood girls and Junior boys must furnish their own sheets, pillow slips, and blankets.

Rates—Meals

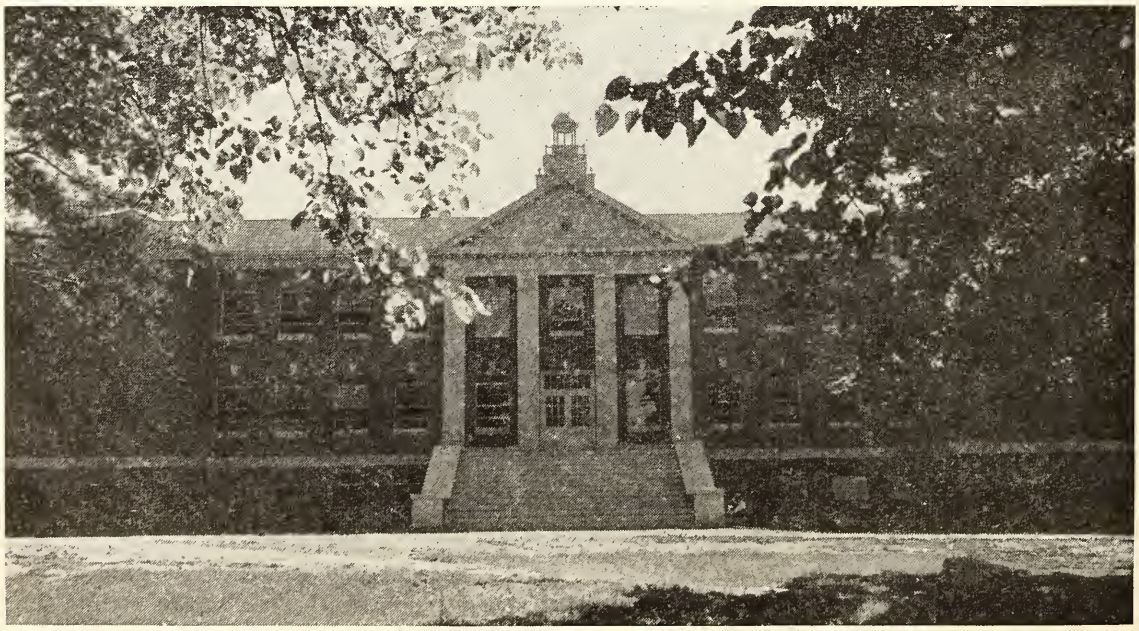
Six day meal ticket $11.00
Breakfasts—.30 .....Dinners—.90 .....Lunches—.75

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Rooming and eating at Jacobs' Hall this Conference time should be a real pleasure and privilege for our delegates. Jacobs' Hall has been constructed with borrowed Federal funds. It is self-liquidating. We need to have it filled with delegates and friends Conference week. You will be doing a real favor both to yourself and to the College by rooming and taking all your meals at Jacobs' Hall. Let your Conference money help Ashland College to meet her building obligations. We will try to make your week a pleasant one.

No deposits are required for rooms.

For reservations write to A. Glenn Carpenter, Business Manager, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.



The new Founders Hall at Ashland College

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

WHAT HAPPENED TO MY QUARTER?

By Ray W. Wallace

HIS LITTLE EYES GLEAMED as he looked up at me, sparkling like shining black stones set in a clear, delicate and honest face. "What happened to my quarter?" he inquired. My first thought was that he had lost his Sunday School offering, and I was feeling around in my almost-empty pocket to see if there could possibly be at least a dime in that collection of coins that felt conspicuously like pennies.

"Your quarter?" I responded. "Did you lose a quarter?" And with that question his face became almost contemptuous, as if he were saying, "I am too old, too wise, too experienced to lose money!" and I felt apologetic for my blunder. But he quickly rescued me by answering, and with contempt.

"No, I gave it away. What happened to it?" And slowly, as is so often true with adults whose older minds, less supple and active, are leagues behind those of their bright children, I caught on! He had brought some money to church school, and now his curiosity was catching up with him. He wanted to know where it had gone.

And so I tried to trace out for him the route it would take. How it would be taken to the church office where it would be counted with all the other dimes and quarters and half dollars (and sadly, some pennies); then would be carried to the bank and deposited; entered on a book where records were kept; and finally sent to one of the hundreds of places where church money goes—to pay the utilities, buy light bulbs, pay for the Sunday School paper he clutched in his hand, or assure a servant of Christ in far-away Thailand that the church at home believes in and supports his ministry.

I knew that his little mind could not grasp the full implication of what this slow-witted adult was trying to tell him, but he seemed satisfied. And when he turned to leave, I felt that he considered his investment had been reasonable and sound. His interest also confirmed the truth, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matt. 6:21)

Faithful to His Trust

Actually the most revealing part of his question was not my answer, but his own prior act—he had fulfilled his stewardship. Part of the money which had been given him as his allowance (and are we not told that all wealth is a gift from God?) had been used as he had been taught to use it. He could have done what hundreds of small boys have persisted in doing. He could have tucked this quarter away until he could have spent it for an ice cream soda, a picture show, or could have put it in his savings bank. But if this occurred to him as a possibility, or if it had been suggested by a worldly young friend, it was not done. He had fulfilled his trust.

Sometimes the extent of all our giving is limited because we are afraid of what happens to what we give away. We are not sure that it will be spent as we would spend it. It is merged into a larger treasury and we cannot follow it and personally determine its use. But what we fail to recognize is that God has already trusted us; and He has also suggested that a portion of that which is our temporary trust should be shared generously with His Church.

What Will God Say?

If we keep all that God has given us, protecting it, saving it, hoarding it (for whatever reason) are we unlike those children who buy candy with their church school money, or who save dimes they have been told they should share with others?

We ought to be concerned about the trustworthiness of those who administer our hard-earned gifts. We have a right to ask questions, to demand an honest accounting. But we ought also to look at ourselves; are we as honest with the dollars, the land, the rich resources of the earth, the investments which are so temporarily in our keeping? Could it ever be possible that God himself might, in some great hour of judgment, expect an accounting from you, and ask: "What happened to my good earth, the rich treasures of my world, the wealth which you have secured only because I have given you life and freedom and the power to create and save?" What will you say then?

—from Christian Stewardship—Unified Promotion

FINANCES—DENOMINATIONALLY

A FEW WEEKS AGO (Evangelist, June 16, 1956, page 10) the Co-Ordinating Finance Committee issued an announcement in which they desired to know how many churches are giving the minimum standard of $12.00 per member per year to Denominational work.

W. Clayton Berkshire, a member of that Committee now notes that four churches have responded to that request, but feels there are many more of our churches which have attained, and even surpassed that minimum figure.

He would like to hear from more of our churches. Send your report of the amount contributed per member to: W. Clayton Berkshire, 524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. (To get this per member average, simply divide the church's total contribution to denominational work—Missions, College and Seminary, Publication, Benevolent Board, Sunday School Association and Brethren Youth, by the church's book membership.)

Tentative Program
of the

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church

August 13-19, 1956

Ashland, Ohio

SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN MEMORIAL CHAPEL

General Theme: 1952-1957: "Into All The World"

1956 Theme: "Building With God"

Conference Text: Psalm 127:1

Conference Theme Song: "In the Service of the King"

THE PROGRAM

Monday evening—August 13

6:30- 7:15 Credentials will be received by the Conference Membership Committee

7:30- 7:45 Praise Service
Led by the Conference Song Director

7:45- 8:00 Devotions by the Moderator
Rev. L. V. King

8:00 Vice Moderator's Address . Rev. Smith F. Rose
"The Divine Partnership"

Tuesday morning—August 14

8:00- 9:00 Simultaneous Sessions:
Ministers, Laymen, S. M. M., Brotherhood, W. M. S.

9:00- 9:15 Musical Meditations

9:15- 9:45 Devotional Hour
Theme: BUILDING THROUGH DOCTRINE
Song
Prayer .....Rev. Bruce Shanholtz
Message .....Rev. Edward L. Miller
"The Two Basic Doctrines of Our Church"

9:45-11:00 Business Session
Membership Committee Report
Election of Conference Officers
Election of New Conference Executive Committee
Conference Treasurer's Report
Special Committees Reports

11:00-12:00 Singspiration
Prayer .....Rev. J. G. Dodds
Moderator's Address .....Rev. L. V. King
"Building The Local Church"

Tuesday afternoon

1:30- 2:30 Inspirational Program sponsored by the Woman's Missionary Society
"Brethren Women at Work Through Stewardship"
Theme Song:
Devotions . . Mrs. Frank Morrison, Dayton, O.
President of the Ohio W. M. S.
Vocal Solo .....Rev. Ralph McFadden, Akron, Indiana
Message .....Dr. James G. Patton, Executive Secretary of the General Council of Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION—1955-56

Moderator .....L. V. King
Vice Moderator .....Smith F. Rose
Secretary .....C. Y. Gilmer
Assistant Secretary .....H. F. Berkshire
Treasurer .....Joe E. Stookey
Statistician .....William S. Crick

Executive Committee

Southeastern District... Milton M. Robinson, E. L. Miller
Pennsylvania District ....B. F. Buzard, Cecil Bolton, Jr.
Ohio District .....William S. Crick, John T. Byler
Indiana District .....Max Miller, Thomas Shannon
Central District .....H. Francis Berkshire
Mid-West District .....John F. Burton
Northern California District .....Lester Schmeidt

3:00 Conference Committee Meetings

Tuesday evening

6:45- 7:15 Combined Youth and Adult Vespers
"Jonathan" .....Dr. J. Garber Drushal

7:25- 9:00 Inspirational Program sponsored by the Laymen
Devotions .....Isaac Litton
Address .....Malvin R. Goode, Pittsburgh, Pa. **Active Layman**, Reporter on Pittsburgh Courier — Largest Negro Newspaper in the World. Also, Newscaster on Pittsburgh radio and T. V.

Wednesday morning—August 15

8:00- 9:00 Simultaneous Sessions
Ministers, Laymen, W. M. S., S. M. M., Brotherhood

9:00- 9:15 Musical Meditations

9:15- 9:45 Devotional Hour
Theme: BUILDING THROUGH BIBLE MEDITATION
Song
Prayer .....Rev. H. William Fells
Message .....Rev. Alvin Grumbling
"Day and Night"

9:45-11:00 Business Session
9:45-10:15 Brethren Publishing Company Session
10:15-11:00 Conference Reports
Conference Minutes
Membership Committee Report
Executive Committee's Report on Moderator's Address
Report of Committee on Moderator's Address
Committee on Committees Report
Co-Ordinating Planning Committee Report
Nomination and Election of Membership on:
Mission Board
Benevolent Board
National Sunday School Board
Fraternal Relation's Committee Report
Committee on Peace Report
Reports of other Committees

11:00-12:00 Workshops—Lecture Period

TITLE	AREA	LEADER	BOARD
Anointing the Sick for Healing	Brethren Doctrine	Dean Delbert B. Flora	Ashland Theological Seminary
The Answer Is Stewardship	Stewardship	Rev. Clayton Berkshire	National Missionary Board
Brethren S. S. Problems	Sunday School Work	Rev. Clate A. Risley	National S. S. Association

Wednesday afternoon

1:30- 2:30 Workshops (Continue) Discussion Period
Each person should attend the discussion period of the workshop they attended in the morning.

3:00- 4:00 S. M. M. Tea in the Little Theater
W. M. S. to be guests of the S. M. M.

Wednesday evening

6:45- 7:15 Combined Youth and Adult Vespers
"Mephibosheth" .....Dr. J. Garber Drushal

7:25- 9:00 Sunday School Board Presentation
Address .....Rev. Clate A. Risley, General Secretary, National S. S. Association, Chicago, Ill.
"A Strategic Gathering"

Thursday morning—August 16

8:00- 9:00 Simultaneous Sessions
Ministers, Laymen, S. M. M., Brotherhood, W. M. S.

9:00- 9:15 Musical Meditations

9:15- 9:45 Devotional Hour
Theme: BUILDING THROUGH FAMILY WORSHIP
Song
Prayer .....Rev. Austin Gable
Message .....Rev. Cecil Bolton, Jr.
"Family Worship, Why and How"

9:45-11:00 Business Session
Conference Minutes
Membership Committee Report
Benevolent Board Session
Financial Report of the National Sunday School Association
Statistician's Report
Report of Special Committees

11:00-12:00 Workshops—Lecture Period

Note: A workshop other than the one attended on Wednesday should be attended today.

TITLE	AREA	LEADER	BOARD
Anointing the Sick for Healing	Brethren Doctrine	Dean Delbert B. Flora	Ashland Theological Seminary
The Answer Is Stewardship	Stewardship	Rev. Clayton Berkshire	National Missionary Board
Brethren S. S. Problems	Sunday School Work	Rev. Clate A. Risley	National S. S. Association

Thursday afternoon

1:30- 2:30 Workshops (Continue) Discussion Period
Each person should attend the discussion period of the workshop they attended in the morning.

3:00- 4:00 W. M. S. Session
"Brethren Women at Work Through Missions"
Theme Song
Devotions .....Mrs. Frank Morrison
Message .....Mrs. Robert Bischof
Thank Offering: Southeastern District W. M. S.

Thursday evening

6:45- 7:15 Combined Youth and Adult Vespers
"Daniel" .....Dr. J. Garber Drushal

7:25- 9:00 Missionary Board Presentation
"Progress in Missions—In Nigeria, Argentina, Kentucky and Mission Churches"
Consecration of new missionaries:
Mr. and Mrs. John Rowsey, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kraft

Friday morning—August 17

8:00- 9:00 Simultaneous Sessions
Ministers, Laymen, S. M. M., Brotherhood, W. M. S.

9:00- 9:15 Musical Meditations

9:15- 9:45 Devotional Hour
Theme: BUILDING THROUGH PERSONAL EVANGELISM
Song
Prayer .....Rev. Herbert Gilmer
Message .....Rev. Virgil Ingraham
"Personal Evangelism's Possibilities"

9:45-11:00 Business Session
Conference Minutes
Membership Committee Report
Report of Co-Ordinating Finance Committee
Financial Report of the Brethren Youth Board
Financial Report of the Mission Board
Nomination and Election of Youth Board
Nomination and Election of Brotherhood Board
Report of Special Committees

11:00-12:00 Singspiration
Prayer .....Rev. Bright Hanna
Bible Study .....Rev. Virgil Meyer

Friday afternoon

12:15 W. M. S. Luncheon
Program by Lanark and Milledgeville, Ill., W. M. S.

1:30- 2:30 Co-Ordinating Finance Committee Presentation

Friday evening

6:45- 7:15 Combined Youth and Adult Vespers
"Ezra" .....Dr. J. Garber Drushal

7:25- 9:00 Ashland College and Seminary Program

Saturday morning—August 18

8:00- 9:00 Simultaneous Sessions
Ministers, Laymen, S. M. M., Brotherhood, W. M. S.

9:00- 9:15 Musical Meditations

9:15- 9:45 Devotional Hour
Theme: BUILDING THROUGH PERSONAL DEVOTION
Song
Prayer .....Rev. Elmer Keck
Message .....Rev. Kenneth Solomon

9:45-11:00 Business Session
Conference Minutes
Membership Committee Report
Time and Place of 1957 General Conference
Action on Printing of Conference Annual
Report of Goals Committee
Report of Resolutions Committee
Unfinished Business, other reports
Installation of New Conference Officers
Adjournment of business session—sine die

11:00-12:00 Singspiration
Prayer .....Rev. Arthur H. Tinkel
Bible Study .....Dr. E. M. Riddle
"The Full Result of the Gospel"

Saturday afternoon

1:30 BRETHREN YOUTH PROGRAM
"Songs in the Afternoon"
In the Chapel
Crafts .....Rev. John Byler

Saturday evening

6:45- 7:15 Combined Youth and Adult Vespers
"Nehemiah" .....Dr. J. Garber Drushal

7:30- 9:00 BRETHREN YOUTH PRESENTATION
Speaker: Rolf Stolpner (just returned from Europe)

Sunday morning—August 19

9:30-10:15 Sunday School
Sunday School Superintendent .. ....Rev. Smith F. Rose
Adult and Youth Teacher ....Rev. E. L. Miller
Children .....Park Street Church

10:15-10:30 Musical Interlude
10:30-11:30 Worship Service
Doxology
Invocation .....Conference Moderator
Hymn of Praise
Devotions .....Rev. A. T. Ronk
Offertory
Special Music
Sermon .....Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith
"Jesus the Carpenter: Master-Builder and Architect"

COMMITTEES

Committee On Committees: N. V. Leatherman, H. H. Rowsey, W. S. Benshoff

Rules and Organization: George T. Ronk, J. G. Dodds, Wayne Swihart

Tellers: Thomas Shannon, J. Edgar Berkshire, Harold Barnett

Conference Membership: Smith F. Rose, Milton M. Robinson, Alvin H. Grumbling, Elmer Keck, Cecil Bolton, Jr., Isaac Litton, Edwin Puterbaugh

Moderator's Address: Ralph E. Mills, Myron Dodds, Lyle Lichtenberger

Peace: Clarence Fairbanks, Floyd Benshoff, Delbert B. Flora

Anniversary Program: Percy C. Miller, C. A. Stewart, Charles Munson, Clarence Fairbanks, Floyd Sibert, W. S. Benshoff, Virgil E. Meyer, Woodrow B. Brant

Goals: Robert K. Higgins, William S. Crick, Henry Bates, E. J. Black, L. O. McCartneysmith

Finance: J. E. Stookey, Walter Lichtenberger, Harlan Hollewell

Spiritual State of the Churches: L. V. King, E. L. Miller, John F. Burton, Wilbur Thomas, Spencer Gentle, John T. Byler, Harry Berkshire, Cecil Johnson, Austin Gable, Thomas Shannon, E. J. Beekley

Publicity: Phillip Lersch, Sr., Charles Munson, Robert Keplinger

Church Polity: J. Garber Drushal, W. E. Ronk (deceased), Arthur H. Tinkel, L. E. Lindower, Dyoll Belote

Fraternal Relations: 1956—Myron Kem, W. C. Berkshire, C. Y. Gilmer, W. E. Ronk (deceased), 1957—Virgil E. Meyer, Freeman Ankrum, E. L. Miller; 1958—John F. Locke, R. F. Porte, W. I. Duker

Ways and Means: Robert Hoffman, William Keeling, J. Ray Klingensmith, Horace Huse, Robert Holsinger, Joseph Shultz, John Golby, George Solomon, G. B. Hanna, J. D. Hamel

Music: W. S. Benshoff, H. D. Hunter, Mrs. Robert Keplinger

Resolutions: William H. Anderson, Catherine Benshoff, Joyce Saylor

Co-Ordinating Finance: Myron Kem, John Eck, Harry Berkshire, Walter C. Wertz, Claud Studebaker, W. C. Berkshire, Virgil E. Meyer, L. V. King, J. E. Stookey, Mrs. U. J. Shively, Mrs. J. Garber Drushal

Central Planning and Co-Ordinating Committee: L. V. King, Spencer Gentle, W. C. Berkshire, E. M. Riddle, Mrs. Clarence Fairbanks, W. S. Benshoff, Woodrow B. Brant, Glenn Clayton, Virgil E. Meyer, Carol Berkshire, Delbert B. Flora

(Programs of Auxiliaries in Next Evangelist)

Laid to Rest

DANIEL. Mr. Bert Daniel, a resident of the Brethren's Home, Flora, Indiana, passed away, June 10, in the Kokomo hospital. Funeral service was in the Loree Brethren Church, of which he was a member; Rev. Claud Studebaker officiating, assisted by the undersigned.

C. A. Stewart.

* * *

BELOTE. Mrs. Nellie Belote, wife of Rev. Dyoll Belote, a resident of the Brethren's Home, Flora, Indiana, passed away in the St. Elizabeth Hospital, Lafayette, Indiana, June 24th. The service was in the Brethren Church of Flora, of which she was a member. She had been in failing health for several months. Rev. H. E. Eppley, of Winona Lake, a friend of the family of long standing, assisted the writer in conducting the service. Interment in Maple Lawn cemetery near Flora.

C. A. Stewart.

* * *

AILER. Mrs. Florence Ailer, a resident of the Brethren's Home, Flora, Indiana, died very suddenly while sitting on a chair at the breakfast table on July 2nd. The body was taken to Tiosa, Indiana, and the service was in the Brethren Church, of which she was a member. Rev. Wayne Swihart, the pastor, officiating.

C. A. Stewart.

» » » » Our Poet's Corner « « « «

(The following poem was written by MELANIE SPEICHER, a Junior age girl from our North Manchester Church.)

"The Bible tells us how to live each day,
As we travel down life's highway;
It tells you which road to take,
So the right decisions you will make."

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE FACE OF DEATH

Death wears a strange and dreadful face.
For days and months and years
I would not look, but turned aside
With loathing and with fears.

But now I know that to God's child
Death never comes alone
To fright the soul; for with him walks
My Lord, my Blessed One.

And so when death shall come to me
I need not see his face,
For I shall turn and hide my eyes
Upon His breast Whose grace

Abounds beyond my deepest need,
Beyond my final breath . . .
And He will gently take me Home, and I
Shall never see the face of death.

—Martha Snell Nicholson.

DEATH IS A TERRIBLE FACT (Job 18:14). It is unavoidable (Heb. 9:27). Our bodies are now dying because of sin (Rom. 8:10). Death is the experience before all men (Rom. 5:12). Death is the common destiny of all (1 Cor. 15:22). We have it coming (2 Sam. 14:14). It is an appointment (Heb. 9:27). Our bodies must go back to dust (Gen. 3:19; Eccles. 3:20).

Medical science may postpone death but cannot ultimately win against death (Eccles. 8:8; Psalm 89:48). Wealth is not the answer to death (Prov. 11:4). How utterly helpless is man in the face of death (Psalm 22: 29)! So, the man who is not ready for death in a righteous sense God calls a "fool" (Luke 12:16-20). Death is the realm from which we do not return (Job 7:9, 10; 2 Sam. 12:23). To those who are outside of Christ there is no exemption from the bitterness of death (1 Sam. 15:32; Job 18:14).

Upon the death of a human body, the spirit goes to "God who gave it" (Eccles. 12:7). To the Christ rejector this will be a fearful matter (Heb. 10:31) from which there is no escape (Job 27:22). His portion is the torments of Hell (Luke 16:23, 24, 25, 28). Sinners fear the judgment (Acts 24:25). for they there face torment (John 4:17, 18). Heaven is for the prepared, and Hell for the unprepared (John 8:21, 24). Everyone will have to give an account unto God for the stewardship of his life (Rom. 14:22; 1 Peter 4:5; Eccles. 12:14; 2 Cor. 5:10). Here is a motive for soul winning (2 Cor. 5:11).

According to the Bible the sinner faces the hurtful "second death" (Rev. 2:11), which is final separation from God. Jesus, Who is "the truth" (John 14:6), has faithfully warned us against this (Matt. 10:28). We are told exactly in Scripture who will face the second deat (Rev. 20:14, 15; 21:8).

"There is a death whose pang
Outlasts this fleeting breath,
Oh, what eternal horrors hang
Around one's second death."

But Jesus became our Kinsman Redeemer and die a supernatural as well as natural death to deliver us fror the "fear of death" (Heb. 2:14, 15). His victory ove death, Hell, and the grave He shares with His own (Cor. 15:57). He has the "keys of death and of Hades (Rev. 1:17, 18). Jesus commands us who believe on Hin not to fear death (Luke 12:4). To Paul death was a "de parture" (2 Tim. 4:6). Paul had a "desire to depart (Phil. 1:23). Death to the Christian is the putting of of this temporary tabernacle for "an house . . . eterna in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1). The Christian will neve die spiritually, the second death (John 11:26). He ha found a "ransom" for his soul (Job 33:24; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6 Mark 10:45). He has been healed by the Great Physi cian of the soul (Isaiah 53:5). To the Christian it is no death to die (2 Tim 1:10).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for July 29, 1956

WITNESSING THROUGH SUFFERING

Lesson: I Peter 1:3-9; 5:6-11

"HOPE," says Dr. A. W. Tozer, "is the sweet anticipation of desirable things promised but not yet realized." Even as FAITH characterizes the writings of Paul, and LOVE is the keyword of John the Beloved, so is HOPE the theme of Peter's writings.

It was to suffering, trial-ladened Christians that Peter wrote his message of HOPE. Even in the midst of severe trial and intense suffering Peter says the Christian has a HOPE that is stedfast and true.

The Christian's HOPE is a "living hope" because of the "resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1:3). Therefore, he needs not despair. Though he suffers much in this present life, he can rejoice in his Godly inheritance which awaits him. This inheritance is "incorruptible (imperishable), and undefiled (untarnished, unsoiled), and that fadeth not away (eternal), reserved in heaven for you. . ."

What a comfort this should be to every suffering, persecuted Saint! Peter says because of the promise of our **Hope of Tomorrow**, we can **Rejoice** in the **Trials of Today!**

There is another reason the suffering should not despair. The tribulations and trials of this life are only "for a season." The days may seem long, and the nights may be trying, but there will come an end to all this. When the brief hour of this life is over those who have

suffered will be able to say with the Apostle Paul: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18).

Peter would also remind his readers that there is a purpose for their suffering. The poet has put it in these words:

"I learn as the years roll onward and leave the past behind,
That much I have counted sorrow but proves our God is kind;
That many a flower I longed for had a hidden thorn of pain—
And many a rugged bypath led to fields of ripened grain."

God is now permitting you to go through the fire that ye may be purified. "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (1:7).

In the midst of trial and suffering you may have the assurance of God's help and strength. The enemy may destroy this old body, but he cannot touch the soul. God watches over each and every one of His Children, for they are "kept by the power of God." When you experience that heaviness of spirit, and you feel you cannot go on, remember you can cast "all your care upon Him; for He careth for you" (5:8).

Peter closes his first epistle with the pronouncement of this benediction upon the suffering ones down through the years: "And God, the giver of every spiritual blessing, who through your union with Christ has called you to His eternal glory, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself make you perfect, firm, and strong. To Him be dominion forever. Amen." (5:10-11—Wms.).

Lesson for August 5, 1956

A CALL TO CHRISTIAN LIVING (Temperance)

Lesson: I Peter 4:1-11

"Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea,
Day by day His sweet voice soundeth,
Saying, 'Christian, follow me'."

THE WORDS OF THIS song are a good introduction to today's lesson, "A Call to Christian Living." We are oft reminded that Christ is calling for men and women to follow Him. He says: **"Come unto Me"** (Matt. 11:28). This is the **Call to Discipleship.** Likewise, He issues a **Call to Christian Living** in these words: **"Come after Me"** (Matt. 16:24).

The Call goes forth today to Christians all over the world to live the Christian Life as it should be lived! A Christian should be **different**! He no longer should live after the lust of the flesh as he did in former days. "For he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God."

There are many people, Peter would say, who live simply to gratify the sinful desires of the flesh. They indulge in evil practices, and then "think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot." But—someday—they are going to be required to "give account to Him that is ready to judge the quick (living) and the dead."

There's a special reason why the Godly person should respond to the Call of Christian Living **now.** It is this: "The end of all things is at hand." We are living in the last days before the Son of Man shall come again. Therefore:

1. "Be ye. . .sober" (self-controlled, seriousminded)—vs. 7.
2. "Watch unto prayer"—vs. 7. "Pray that ye enter not into temptation" (Luke 22:40).
3. Manifest "fervent charity" to one another (lit., "love stretched to the limit")—vs. 8.
4. Exhibit a spirit of "hospitality one to another" (act of loving the stranger)—vs. 9.
5. Minister to each other "as good stewards of the manifold grace of God"—vs. 10.

"By their fruits ye shall know them," said Jesus (Matt. 7:20). The man who says he is a Christian will **prove** his TALK by his WALK! Peter would say the Christian has a responsibility to live right, and **act** right, if he would share in the benefits of salvation.

Not only must a Christian exhibit Christ-like characteristics to share in the glories of salvation, but to escape judgment at the hand of Almighty God because of disobedience. "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (4:17).

Beloved, sometimes we are guilty of making the Christian Life too easy! The responsibility of being a Christian is great! It is costly! Paul says "that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22).

In spite of the difficulties of being a Christian, we are assured of Divine help and strength. "I can do all things," says Paul, "through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13).

"Jesus calls us, by Thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear Thy call,
Give our hearts to Thine obedience,
Serve and love Thee best of all."

General Conference Meets on Eastern Standard Time

Bring the whole family to Conference next month.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

Marlin McCann, Ray Aspinall, Phil Lersch, Chuck Huff

WANTED!

THESE FELLOWS may look like four convicts wanted for some notorious crime, but we've moved their picture from the bottom of the page (last week) to the top of the page because they compose the **AMBASSADOR QUARTET for 1956-1957.** The only thing that is "wanted" about them is an enthusiastic audience in every Brethren Church where they will sing and speak when they begin traveling for Brethren Youth early in August.

These four future ministers of the Brethren Church are interested in traveling together to Europe as ambassadors of Christ, their church, and their country. They would like to spend next summer spreading Christ's love, broadening the vision of our church, and proving that we Christians in America live the Gospel.

Rolf Stolpner, a German exchange student who this June graduated from Ashland College, with honors, plans to go as interpreter and pianist for the group. He is in Europe this summer, traveling at his own expense arranging with German churches an itinerary for the quartet next summer. It was Rolf who first dreamed of the plan. Having lived his early life under Hitler and then the Russian regime since he lived in Eastern Germany he never thought highly of Americans. In fact when he received the opportunity to come to this country, he hesitated because of the prejudice built up in his mind about the United States. Now, after living here two years, he realizes he was wrong and he wants to show others like himself evidences of brotherly love he has found here. It was in traveling with the Ambassador Quartet last summer that Rolf received his inspiration.

By arranging before-hand the quartet plans to commission a German pastor to travel with them to facilitate evangelistic services.

The benefits of this program are many-fold. Here are a few possible returns. Four dedicated Christian young men will raise the reputation of America among Europeans which some American tourists, service men, and movies have ruined. A quartet will spread Christian love by singing the Gospel. The Brethren Church, somewhat limited in scope because of its small size, will broaden its outlook of the possibilities of Christian service by giving four of her ministers to "see the world" as it is.

You may have a chance to hear more about the program later this summer when the quartet will travel to several of our churches with a gospel message and more of their future plans. They will also be on hand at National Conference.

If every member of the Brethren Church would give one quarter the financial angle would be solved. The Youth Board has authorized the boys to represent Brethren Youth in Europe next summer. You can help by giving. If you don't see the youth director with his fish bowl, you can mail in your donation to his office.

THAT FISH BOWL LOOKS BETTER EVERY DAY

AMBASSADOR'S SCHEDULE BEFORE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

August 4	Brush Valley
August 5 (morning)	Vandergrift
August 5 (evening)	Pittsburgh
August 6	Vinco
August 7	Armagh (C. E. Rally)
August 8	Johnstown II
August 9	Jones Mills
August 10	Meyersdale
August 11	Cumberland
August 12	Masontown
August 13	Cameron

If you're in the area, come and see us. Remainder of the schedule will be given later.

EVER HEAR OF MUSCATINE?

Those Brethren Youth out Iowa-way know this is not a disease, but rather the location of Camp Blackhawk for the Central District this year. Jean and I had the opportunity to help with that camp by serving on the faculty from July 1-8. At this writing we know that the first three days of camp were cold and rainy, but the balance of the week's weather is unknown. This beautiful Spring Valley Bible Camp, which is owned by the Conservative Baptists, is an ideal spot for good times and Bible teaching. The abundance of room enables the camp deans, Rev. Francis Berkshire and Rev. A. T. Ronk, to carry out their well-planned program in fine fashion.

Thursday, which is Decision Day, promises to be a highlight as well as Saturday when the Bible dramas are presented. I do wish we could get more than seven out for morning dip. Chickens!

ODDS-N-ENDS

Goals questionnaires have been sent to every pastor for your Brethren Youth Crusaders. Fill these out and mail them at once to Ashland. Awards will be given to banner societies.

If you haven't received it yet, ask your pastor for a Brethren Youth Credential for National B. Y. Conference. Have this credential properly signed and bring it with you when you come. You'll miss something if you let conference miss you!

Bring your "Food for the Faithful" for the Flora Home to Ashland when you come to conference.

Hear Dr. Drushal at chapel and vespers.

Bring your project money to conference with you—Help us meet $6,500.

BUILD BRETHREN YOUTH and you BUILD THE BRETHREN CHURCH

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

"Wherefore comfort yourselves together and edify one another even as also ye do," I Thess. 5:11.

"OH, THE PEOPLE, the people over and over! let me give something to them that will lighten the everyday struggles of our common life, something that will add a little sweetness here, a little hope there, something that will make more thoughtful, kind and gentle this thoughtless animal-natured world." The writers of our Woman's Corner seem to echo this cry of an unknown author whose words I found in a book given to us long ago by an English governess in Argentina. Indeed I sense that the Joannas, Marys, and Lydias of life cannot be contained between the covers of the Bible, for our own church has greater power and witness because of the faithful, humble discipleship of our women. Each feels a surge of joy and encouragement to know of others, faithful to the simple, never-ending duties of home and church. Our desire to know Him and be known of Him, makes us akin to one another. Ruth Stull, missionary to the Campa Indians of Peru, speaks of her life as a Christian adventure in which of necessity I had to keep my feet in the sand while my heart was in the stars." We may travel fewer miles than she but our hearts know infinite distances of heights and depths. How much it means to turn from mechanized confusion of today's living and find here in the Evangelist a word picture which may smell of the pines or resound with the breaking of waves on the shore.

To bring your heart to the stars from the sand, I sketch for you the blind man who goes whistling past my door each day. You may cheer me with the birds which call from your wood-lot and the aroma of a farm kitchen. Perhaps I have a book on my table and you have a great painting on your wall.

"Such as I have, give I unto thee"—in His name. Characters from great fiction, loved phrases from the past come trooping through my mind. These, too, may be shared.

Remembering that soon or late all of us are bowed in bereavement, I seek out Dostoevsky's Alexey Karamazov; for the starkness of death was dissipated for him when he heard an intoned reading: "And the third day, there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee . . . both Jesus was called and His disciples to the Marriage." Alexey says wonderingly "Jesus worked His first miracle to help men's gladness." "It was not grief but joy—Christ visited that day." A sense of the wholeness of things floods across his soul.

Then there is the poignancy of Ian MacLaren in his tales of rugged Scotland. The pride of life needs reproof and who has put it better than Marget Howe from the pages of "Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush." The old rock-ribbed churchman, Lachlan Campbell, an elder in the church, and a widower, had gone through with the painful duty of asking that his only child, Flora, have her name cut off the church roll for, as he explained, she had "left home and gone into the far country." When Marget, in sympathy, visited him, the old man showed in the Bible where Flora's name had been scratched off the family record. With burning heart Marget condemns him: "This is what ye hev done! ye are an auld man and in sore travail but I tell ye before God, ye have the greater shame. Just twenty years o' age this spring and her mither dead! No woman to watch over her and she wandered frae the fold and all ye can do is to take her name oot o' yir Bible. Woe's me if oor Father had blotted oot oor names from the Book o' Life when we left His hoose. But He sent His own Son to seek us and a weary road He came. I tell ye, a man wouldna leave a sheep to perish as ye have cast off yer own bairn. Yir worse than Simon, the Pharisee for Mary was nae kin to him. Poor Flora to have sic a father!"

Small wonder that Lachlan, humbled, sent a letter imploring Flora's return; then asked the church session to forgive him his pride. Tears are shed as the Spirit descends on the rough Burnbrae who offers up this heartfelt prayer: "Almighty Father, we are a' Thy poor and sinful bairns, who wearied o' home and goed away into the far country. Forgive us for we didna ken what we were leaven' or the sore heart we gived oor Father. It was weary wark to live wi' oor sins, but we would never hev come back had it no been for oor Elder Brither. He cam' a long road to find us and a sore travail He had afore He set us free. He's been a good Brither to us and we've been a heavy charge to Him. May He keep a firm hold o' us and guide us in the richt road and bring us back if we wander and tell us all we need to know 'till the gloamin' come. Gither us in then, we pray Thee and all we love, no a bairn missin' and may we sit doon forever in oor ain Father's House, Amen."

Space will not permit the inclusion of Flora's loving words to her father on her return. But others shall bring gems to this corner from the Father's storehouse of solace and blessed hope. In Marget's words, "Ah'm thinkin' oor Father didna comfort us withooot expectin' that we wud comfort ither folk."

Mrs. Edwin Boardman
Ashland, Ohio.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Brother Spencer Gentle writes: "Our Bible School enrollment was 112, with an average attendance of 83. We feel that this is very good since this is only the second year that Goshen Brethren has had a Bible School. Dick Allison was in complete charge, assisted by the Crusaders Team from Brethren Youth. This team consisted of Carol Berkshire, Teegarden, Indiana; Carol Johnson, Ashland, Ohio; and Betty Meyers, Berlin, Penna. The local workers are to be commended on their work, too."

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Brother H. Francis Berkshire, in a note to the Editor relative to the Central District Camp, says, "We have 69 campers and 14 on the staff this year. We are all tired this first evening."

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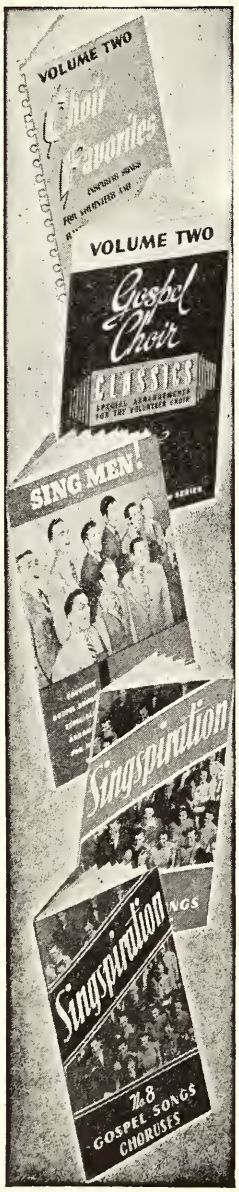
POPULAR Singspiration Song & Chorus BOOKS



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Thank You, Lord
No One Ever Cared For Me

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It's in My Heart

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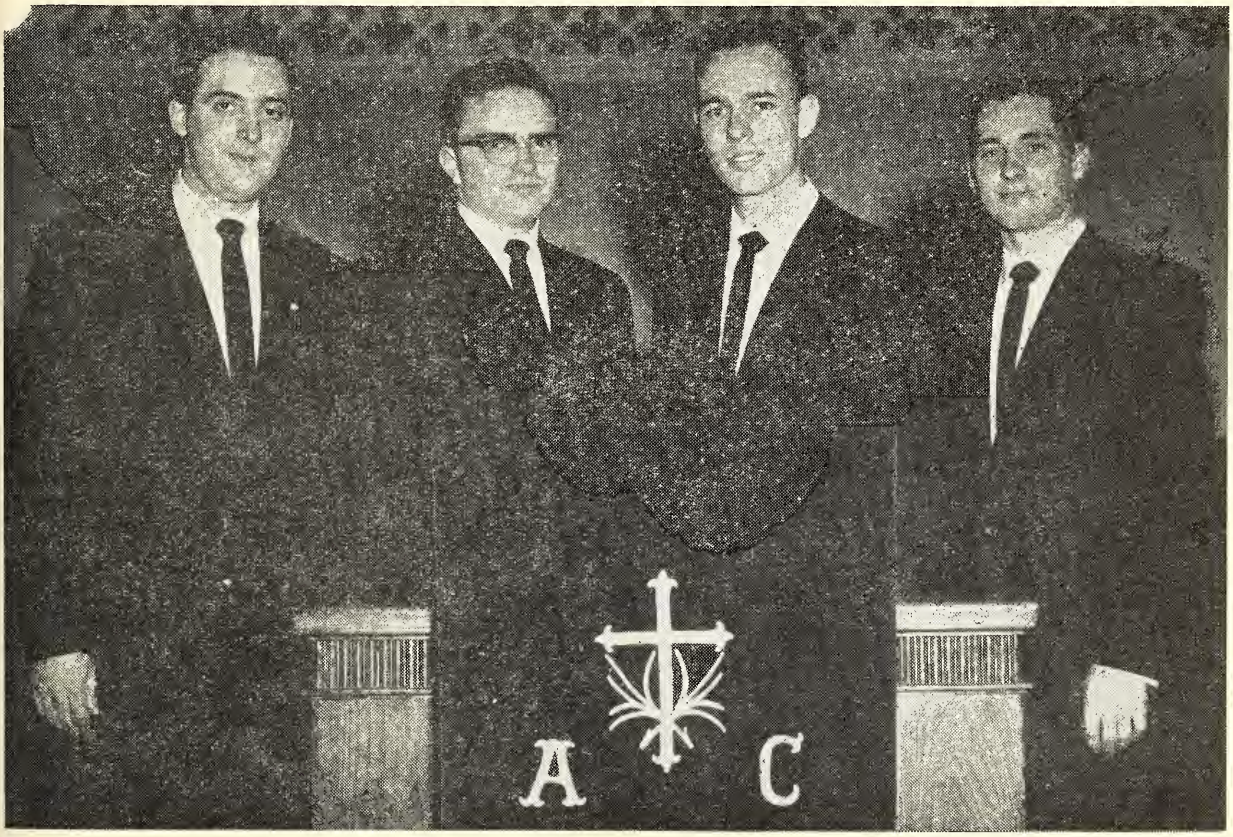

Marlin McCann, Ray Aspinall, Phil Lersch, Chuck Huff

Story on Page 2

General Conference Auxiliary Programs in this Issue

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. A reception for Brother Clarence Stogsdill, and family, was held the evening of July 9th by the members and friends of the Church.

Brother Stogsdill reports that they are getting settled in their new work with the Johnstown Third Brethren.

BERLIN, PENNA. The Lyle Lichtenbergers are the proud parents of Philip Lynn, born on July 26th.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Guest speaker on July 22nd was Dan Royer.

CANTON, OHIO, TRINITY BRETHREN. The Laymen's Public Service was held on Sunday morning, July 15th, with Dwight Flohr as the speaker. Evening speaker on the same Sunday was Rev. Curtis Dubble.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. Brother L. V. King, pastor of the Louisville, Ohio, Church, was guest speaker in the Williamstown Church on July 22nd.

GRATIS, OHIO. A baby daughter, weighing 7 lbs., oz., was born to the M. W. Dodds' in St. Elizabeth' Hospital, Dayton, on July 23rd. Brother Dodds report that mother and daughter are doing fine.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. One new mem ber was baptized and received into the church recently

Brother Henry Bates notes that June Sunday Schoc attendance averaged 225 per Sunday, which is an aver age of 5 more than a year ago; it was also the highes in the past ten years.

HUNTINGTON, INDIANA. Brother Edwin Puter baugh reports the addition of 7 new members recently with one more awaiting baptism. Brother Puterbaug notes that this makes 12 new members in the last yea

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. The Junior Churc had complete charge of the morning worship service o July 1st.

(Continued on Page 7)

General Conference Meets on Eastern Standard Tim

BRETHREN YOUTH AMBASSADORS

(Picture on Page One)

MEET FIVE YOUNG MEN with a mission. Chuck Huff, Phil Lersch, Ray Aspinall, Marlin McCann, and Rolf Stolpner are determined to sing, speak, and show God's love for all the world. They want to apologize to the German people for the bombs America dropped in the last war. They want to shake hands with German people to create more friendship and understanding between our country and theirs. They want to prove the existence of Christians in America. They want to strengthen the "tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." They want to learn more of the suffering of the world so that they can open the eyes of our church to further areas of service. This they will accomplish by traveling to Europe next summer.

These men compose the current Ambassador Quartet and will be meeting many of you in your churches soon. Consult your Evangelist dated July 21 for their itinerary until Conference. All of the delegates at Conference will have opportunity to hear them.

All of the quartet members are active on Ashlan College campus in seminary or pre-seminary courses c study. Charles Huff, bass, and Marlin McCann, firs tenor, live in Waterloo, Iowa. Chuck will enter Ashlan Theological Seminary in the fall while Marlin complete his college course. Mr. Huff served as student counc president the past year. Ray Aspinall, from Smithvill Ohio, will also begin seminary training this fall. He ha been serving our Glenford, Ohio, church as pastor. Ph Lersch, newly-appointed youth director from Ashlan Ohio, has completed his class work in seminary an will receive his Bachelor of Divinity degree upon com pletion of a thesis. He served as pastor of the Fair Have church for three years. Rolf Stolpner, a German ex change student who is currently making contacts i Europe for the quartet's next year's tour, received his co lege degree with honors this spring and will assist i chemistry at Ohio State University next year. He wi provide musical accompaniment and language interpre tation for the group on their trip next summer.

Come to meet these young men with a mission whe they visit your church and hear more about their futu plans.

The Editor's Pulpit

Putting First Things First

THERE ARE BUT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS in every day, and every person has exactly the same amount of time. Many times we have wished for more hours in a day, but that does not change the fact that there are but twenty-four. We do see, though, that some people are able to do so much more in their twenty-four hours per day than are others. Shall we say it is because they have put "first things first?"

Our blessed Lord was very mindful of the preciousness of time, knowing that there is a tendency for people to fritter away their valuable hours on worthless endeavors. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness." These words were spoken to a generation of people who were materialistically inclined; these words were never more needed than today.

Prior to uttering these words, the Lord had mentioned the matter of concern for something to eat, to drink, and to wear. A struggle in His days upon the earth, it is a struggle even now. There are some for which the "Give us this day our daily bread" is not a daily struggle, but for the greater portion of humanity, sustenance and provision for family and self requires daily and regular labor. A day off for sickness, or a lay-off can easily spell hardship or even disaster for a family in this highly sensitized economy in which we live. Small wonder then that many family heads and wage earners literally live and work from day to day, making it the first concern of their lives.

But our Lord told us that we should first seek the kingdom of God. Do you think there is a direct relationship between putting God first in our lives and being able to provide for our families? We do! A man who has talked his problems over with God in the morning before going to work is going to be able to do a better job, he is going to be able to overlook unpleasant things which turn up in the course of the day. He is going to be in a better frame of mind when he comes home to his family. He will find that his twenty-four hours have netted him peace, confidence and provision. A family so geared will be content to do without some things that otherwise they would feel they would have to have.

Each day, let us put the Lord first in our lives, by a period of morning devotions. Let us visit with the Lord, and we will find it the **most profitable** time of the whole day. Each Sunday, let us attend our church services; let us give of our service, talent and substance. Let us through the week wipe from our schedules those things which are worldly and spiritually worthless. We will then have a degree of spiritual health which will make the twenty-four hours of each day sufficiently adequate.

In addition to having a better frame of mind, the uncountable blessings of the Lord upon those who honor His word by taking it for what it says, will transform our entire life, for the Lord said, "All these things shall be added unto you." W. S. B.

Read

FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL

by George W. Solomon

Starts on Page 11

Bring the whole family to Conference this month.

THE DOOR IS OPEN

Dr. John F. Locke

Text: Rev. 3:8—"I know thy works: behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name."

(This sermon was delivered at the opening session of the Southeastern District Conference held June 19-21 at Oak Hill, West Virginia. The text was suggested to the preacher assigned to this place on the program by the Executive Committee.)

IT IS PLAIN that the messages of the Spirit to the Seven Churches of Asia, also constitutes **a message to the churches of today.** Seven times the significant words are repeated: **"He that hath ears to hear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."** These seven churches were, and still are, typical and representative churches. Their types are with us today. Take for instance:

1. THE CHURCH THAT LIVES IN THE PAST, THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS.

This church had backslidden. They used to do a lot better than at present. This church was called upon to repent, to remember the way they used to love the Lord, and to return to that former life when He was so precious to them. They were orthodox at Ephesus, but the fire of love had gone out and they were just doing things mechanically. They had the true doctrines, but their orthodoxy was on ice. I feel sure the Devil doesn't mind us having perfectly orthodox beliefs so long as we do not do anything practical with them.

2. THE CHURCH AT SMYRNA IS TYPICAL OF THE POOR-RICH CHURCH.

They were having a struggle at Smyrna. . .next door to them was the synagogue of Satan. What this place was like you can imagine. Nowadays we give them a fancy glamorous name, and issue them a license to sell alcoholic drinks, and their evil seduction rocks and rolls its way to hell with the official blessing of society.

The church at Smyrna had evil competition and so do many, or most churches of today. In some parts of the world the furnaces of martyrdom have been heated up. But the church that is rich toward God is glorious. **It is infinitely better to be rich in grace and poor in purse, than to reverse the order.** It is always better to be popular with Christ than to be popular with the passing order of the times.

3. THE CHURCH AT PERGAMOS IS A TYPE OF CHURCH CORRUPTED BY POLITICS.

They were a compromising church. There were a few faithful saints that would die rather than deny the faith of Christ, but they also had some who followed the doctrine of Balaam, that remarkable man of the Old Testament who was so stupid that even his donkey tried to correct him. They had a mixed membership of Nicolaitanes who believed that the church should be married to the world. The church is to be the "Called out". . .a separate, peculiar, consecrated people, and these compromisers were in for making a sort of holy hash of all religion. As Dr. William Evans used to say, "They believed that you could play with pitch and not get your fingers black."

Churches of this type are interested in the assaults on the atom, more interested, in fact, than in assaults on the gates of hell. This kind of church doesn't preach the necessity of being born again. They are more interested in fun-loving recreation. All of its enterprizes have an earthiness about them.

4. THE CHURCH AT THYATIRA WAS A SOCIAL CHURCH RULED BY A RICH WOMAN WHO IS REFERRED TO AS JEZEBEL.

Anybody familiar with Jezebel in the Old Testament must realize that this is a very descriptive appelation. Good women carry forward the work of the churches. They are missionary minded and they teach our children . . .but a Jezebel, that's different! Let's drop the matter and go on to

5. THE CHURCH AT SARDIS, THE SELF-CENTERED CHURCH.

It was merely a nominal church. No doubt its ritual was beautiful, its singing artistic, and its preaching rhetorical. . .but they weren't bothered about the great mass of people around them going to hell. Every self-centered church is dead, and only nominally Christian. No Christian, or church, can be self-centered long. The Spirit of Christ just won't permit it. I heard Bishop Litwiler say in the Ashland College Chapel last winter that there are three ways of evaluating a church. One way is by **what it does with the Bible.** In South America we know that the Bible is a largely closed and unknown book. Another way is **what the church does with Christ.** Is He kept on the cross or on the throne? And the third way is by **what the church does with morals and ethics.** The self-centered church forgets about Christ and the Bible, and lets ethics and morals be what they will while being interested in its own power and perogatives and perpetuity.

6. THE CHURCH AT LAODICEA EVERYONE KNOWS WAS HALF-HEARTED.

They disgusted God by being neither hot nor cold. They had a Christianity without Christ. . .He is pictured standing at the door knocking, trying to get in. The door was fastened against Him. The only cure for half-heartedness is to let Him come in to the Church.

7. THE CHURCH OF WHICH THE SPIRIT HAD NO CRITICISM WAS THE CHURCH AT PHILADELPHIA.

They had a world-wide missionary vision there. They were promised success. The synagogues of Satan would be overcome by the Gospel. **What they were doing did not deny the name of Christ. . .there was brotherly love in Philadelphia.** Before them was a great prospect. The door was open to great opportunities.

If we are to be a church like Philadelphia, receiving the commendation of the Spirit, let us look what door is open to us, and for us now.

We have looked at some wrong things. What will the right kind of church do with its opportunities?

It can be said that the door is open to us NOW for the following:

1. LIVING LIKE CHRIST.

Christian character is needed and is still approved. Any church or individual Christian is deceived, if it or he thinks we can get by on some other sort of program. If we have ears, let us hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The Spirit has said to these other churches: Living in the past won't do. . .if you have an orthodoxy let it be translated into deeds. The Spirit has said: Wealth is not the bringer of real success and compromising politicizing won't get you by. The church must be more than a social success even if you have a Jezebel

DR. JOHN F. LOCKE

steering its course. A church cannot be Christian and self-centered at the same time. A Church cannot be lukewarm without disgusting God. The Spirit says what we are not to be and what we are to be. Let us put the emphasis right back where it belongs and put Christian character first. **What we believe must issue in Character.** It did so for Alexander Mack even as it did for St. Paul or whatever ancient or modern worthy you might name.

The door is wide open for us to be the kind of men and women, boys and girls that the world will recognize as friends and followers of Jesus. . .the kind of people who do not deny his name.

2. THE DOOR IS OPEN TO BIBLE STUDY AND GROWTH IN BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE.

The church that is going to endure cannot neglect these. People can be mixed up and twisted because they do not know what the Bible says or teaches. People get outrageous un-Christian views on all sorts of things because they have by-passed the enlightening which Bible study would bring. How much time does the average Church member of this District give to Bible study per week or per month? You'd be surprised, or would you?

3. THE DOOR IS OPEN TO THE PRACTICE OF CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP.

We have the right to express Christian idealism and exercise our faith as citizens. We live in a free country. My Brethren, what are we doing with the freedoms entrusted to us here? Freedoms can be lost by our indifference.

4. THE DOOR IS OPEN TO CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

Only a fraction of our memberships seem to realize this, or to care. I saw a cartoon around Easter time which had the preacher say to his fine audience, "Aren't you ever curious as to what goes on here the rest of the year?"

Having people present has a good effect on the services. I used to go to a very historic old church in New Haven, Conn., located in the center of the village green.

Often there would be as many as three of us besides the minister and the organist. The door of that church was open and thousands of people in a busy city were hurrying to and fro, chasing their favorite phantoms. More people in those services would have multiplied their usefulness. The benefits of a service of worship were there, but we Americans are free to neglect our souls, and do. More people in those services would have pleased God and made the people happy.

When you stay away from church for any trivial reason, it does something to you and to others. It makes people doubt the reality of your religion. It makes some think you are merely a pretender—that you do not regard your spiritual condition and that of others as being of any importance. Absence from church doesn't make your heart grow any fonder for God and the things of God, when that absence is deliberate and without some real reason.

Your absence makes it harder for you to meet temptation, beginning with the subtle temptation to quit worship and the other things that belong to living the Christian life. Of course your absence makes it harder for the preacher to preach and it helps others to stay away too. It gives the devil more power over lost souls and helps fix the non-church-going habit on your community. The church door is open for you. Not to use that opportunity is to vote to close the door permanently. It is a door to happiness and the larger life that we should enter gladly whenever we can. Let us make church attendance an emphasis in all of our churches this year.

5. THE DOOR IS OPEN TO CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE.

Last year about a half million homes were destroyed not by fire, flood, windstorm or other havoc but by the insidious thing we call divorce. It is still possible, with some determination, to have wholesome Christian family life in spite of the encroachments of a number of new and old factors which militate against it. In spite of Television, the High School program, the community in general, there are families that work, worship and play together. It's no small achievement but it's worth all the effort that it requires. Christian family life is a goal that is still attainable. Let us resolve to make the most of our opportunities here.

6. THE DOOR IS OPEN TO MISSIONS AT HOME.

It has been said that "It takes good vision to see open doors." Our record in establishing new churches in the United States is far from what it ought to be. Most any of our people will tell you that quite emphatically. But the doors are open! We seem not to have entered because the many adversaries which seem to always have a way of being present, have hindered us from entering. When I compare our achievements with those of a group most like us in size and background I am made to wonder why the marked difference?

The explanation always points in the same direction: we do not have enough men and women to do the work. Which comes first, the program or the volunteers to carry it forward? This problem is no easier to resolve than the ancient one on the hen and the egg, but anyone can see that keeping a flock of non-laying hens is very unprofitable! There are plenty of home missionary opportunities all over this nation IF we had an abundance of young men and women who were ready and willing to care for them. As it is we are scarcely able to replace those who die or retire. Population experts tell us that every seven days 82,500 babies are born in the U. S. In 1956 we have 14,000,000 more children under 10 than we had in 1950. In the next twenty-five years our population is due to go to 228,500,000. These same experts tell us that some 83,400,000 people will live away from the cities in suburban areas. At our rate of growth there ought to be about 12,000 new Sunday School teachers found and trained every week to care for the new pupils, not to speak of new church buildings, etc.

If the Brethren lag behind and do not grow, it can not be blamed on any lack of opportunity. The people are here in the U. S. What will the churches do about them?

7. DOORS ARE OPEN IN FOREIGN MISSIONS WHICH WE MUST USE BEFORE THEY CLOSE.

We have seen the doors swing shut on vast populations in China and where ever the tide of atheistic communism has moved in to make people captive. But in Africa and Argentina the Brethren still have wonderful opportunities. In Africa we can preach, teach, and heal in the name of Christ and bring them into His orbit instead of letting them fall into the blights of Mohammedanism or communism.

In Argentina wonderful things are happening through the medium of radio evangelism. **But what we do abroad is always limited by our lack of vision at home.** Some people here seem to prefer closed doors to open ones. They hear the knocking on their door and people in the night saying "Arise and give us bread," and, like the man in the parable, they seem to say, "Trouble me not for my children are in bed with me, the door is shut, I cannot rise and give thee."

But He who knocks on our doors is the One who is Himself the door to salvation, and in-so-far as we fail people here, or anywhere, we are failing Him. We have only offered Him token service. The record of our giving proves that. We give approximately a tithe of what the Government would recognize as legitimate deduction for such. Our per capita giving does not indicate that stewardship has really taken hold of our people. Thomas A. Edison was asked what was the most important thing he did, and he answered in one word: **"Start."** It's time to start.

The Spirit said to the church at Philadelphia, **"I know thy works."** That is very applicable to us. Nothing that we do, or fail to do, is unknown to Him. If we choose not to enter the open doors and decide to beat a retreat before the many adversaries, He knows that too.

The Revelation is not a mystery, but an uncovering of that which has been concealed. . .an unveiling of that which must shortly come to pass. It is a revelation from God. All things go back to Him. When He sets before us open doors and we refuse to enter them, it is no trivial matter for He holds the destinies of men, and churches and nations, and civilizations.

To those that overcome the obstacles and adversaries there is a great future of joy in prospect. Let us determine to hear what the Spirit has to say to our church in these great days, and then go where He leads.

—Maurertown, Virginia.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

MISSIONARY MISCELLANY

REPLYING to the many inquiries that have come into the office, the General Secretary is much improved and is back at work again. He has expressed his thanks and appreciation for the many messages of cheer and assurances of prayer in his behalf which he received during his illness.

After attending the Ohio Conference, Reverend Berkshire, accompanied by his wife and children, left for a trip to Sarasota, Florida. He will be gone until about General Conference time.

At Sarasota

While he is at Sarasota, Mr. Berkshire will combine business with pleasure by doing a bit of preaching to the Brethren in this new center of activity. Since the Vanators will "take to the air" about July 25 and come back up north for a brief visit before conference, he may fill the pulpit a time or two.

He will also meet with the Sarasota Church people to begin planning their new church building. (Incidentally, the Ten Dollar Club payments continue to come in.) Some people—bless their hearts—are sending twenty and twenty-five dollars or more. One good lady sent her contribution, calling it the "Twenty Dollar Club." (Now that, I favor!)

Don't forget—all you good people—the General Conference offering on Sunday morning will be given for the Sarasota Church this year. Let's make it colossal!

Board Activity

In June, the Kentucky Committee from the Missionary Board—E. M. Riddle, Everett Miller, and Claud Studebaker—made a three-day trip to Lost Creek to survey the building that has been done in the past year, under the supervision of Dorman Ronk, and to meet with the Drushals to talk over the future of the program.

The Drushals should soon be able to move into the new parsonage, and Dorman Ronk will report on progress in the Classroom Building at General Conference time.

Notices have gone out to Board members, regarding the next meeting to begin on August 10 in Ashland. Members are urged to attend these meetings so that most of the business will be taken care of in time for them to attend conference sessions.

Since the General Secretary was unable to attend the Pennsylvania Conference, John Golby, one of the board members from that district, was drafted to report on missions to the conference.

Krypton, Kentucky

Krypton has been the center of considerable industry recently. Dorman Ronk took time from his busy schedule at Lost Creek to do some repairing and remodeling in the kitchen of Miss Lowery's house. While he was there working, Mr. and Mrs. Harry McBride, from Ashland, stopped for a visit; and although this was Mr. McBride's vacation, he straightway went to work, helping with the carpentering. (Hats off to you, Mr. McB.!) Mrs. McBride also made herself useful on the scene of activity, as did Mrs. Dorman Ronk.

Brethren Crusaders—Bonnie Swihart, Susan Miller, Beverly Summy, Jeannette Findley, and Joan Rummel—spent two weeks helping in daily vacation Bible school. Ron Ritchey and Bill Dively from Berlin, Pennsylvania, took off from Ashland with another truck loaded with clothing and other useful articles to be used at Krypton, and made themselves generally useful before returning.

Kenny Howard entered the picture on July 1 to remain for about two months. He also is teaching in vacation Bible school, visiting, preaching, driving the bus, helping to maintain the property and serving in whatever capacities he is needed. After General Conference he will return for some special meetings. Kenny is doing all this practically gratis—receiving little more than his expenses. The Missionary Board is truly grateful for his help.

Missionary Candidates—Krafts

Our candidates, Chuck and Meg Kraft (and the twins), after visiting the Church of the Brethren Conference at Euguen, Oregon, have been attending the Missionary Training Conference at Meadville, Pennsylvania, for six weeks. The last two weeks of the conference, Chuck will instruct a class in linguistics.

In the fall they will return to Ashland for the first semester's work at Ashland Seminary, where Chuck will receive the B. D. degree. The Krafts should be ready to go to Nigeria when Bischofs return or shortly thereafter.

The Rowseys—John, Regina and Susan will spend the first semester this fall at Hartford Seminary in special language study. They should be ready to go to Argentina early next spring. Mrs. Rowsey will receive the Bachelor of Science in Education degree at the Summer School graduation on August 3 in Ashland.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Five new members were baptized and received into the church on July 4th.

WARSAW, INDIANA. Harold Hummel, of Goshen, was the guest speaker in the Warsaw Church on July 22nd.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Marlin McCann was the speaker in the Waterloo Church the morning of July 22nd.

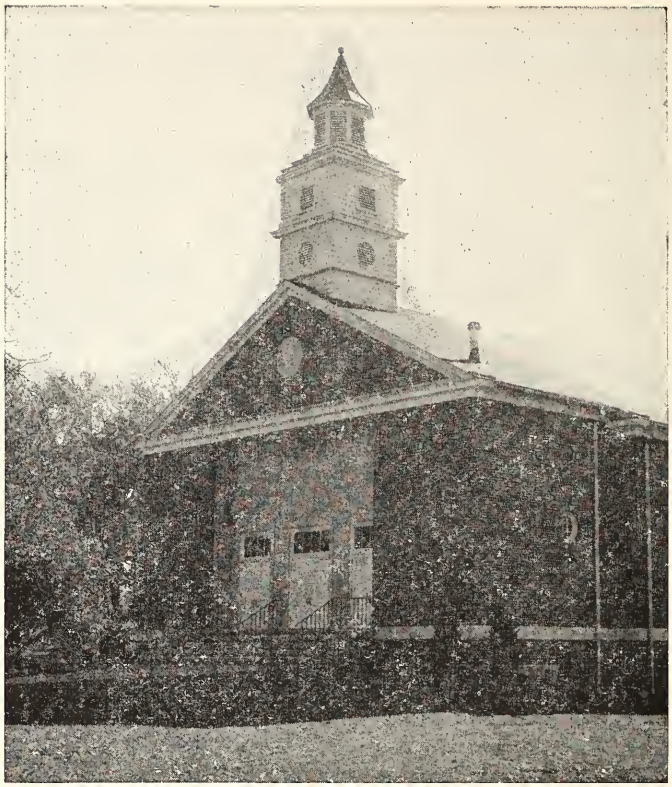
Brother Albert T. Ronk reports the baptism of seven young people the evening of July 11th.

Tentative Auxiliary Programs of the

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church

August 13-19, 1956

Ashland, Ohio



WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY PROGRAM

Conference Theme: BRETHREN WOMEN AT WORK

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, . . . always abounding in the WORK of the Lord."
I Corinthians 15:58

Tuesday morning—8:00-9:00

Business Session

President's Address .....Mrs. Russell Rodkey
Appointment of Committees

Tuesday afternoon—1:45

Public Program

Brethren Women at Work Through Stewardship

Theme Song:
Devotions .....Mrs. Frank Morrison, Dayton, Ohio
President, Ohio District W. M. S.
Vocal Solo .....Rev. Ralph McFadden, Akron, Indiana
Message .....Dr. James G. Patton, Atlanta, Georgia
Exec. Sec. of the General Council of the Presbyterian Church

Wednesday morning—8:00-9:00

Business Session

Brethren Women at Work in the W. M. S.

Devotions .....Mrs. Frank Morrison
Report of the General Secretary .....Mrs. Joyce Saylor
Adoption of the Goals

Wednesday afternoon—3:00-4:00

Brethren Women at Work Through Youth

The W. M. S. will be guests of the S. M. M. for a program and tea in the Little Theater.

Thursday morning—8:00-9:00

Business Session

Election of Officers
Continuation of Reports

Thursday afternoon—3:00-4:00

Brethren Women at Work Through Missions

Theme Song:
Devotions .....Mrs. Frank Morrison
Special Music
Message .....Mrs. Robert Bischof
missionary on furlough from Nigeria, Africa
Thank Offering .....Southeastern District W. M. S.

Friday morning—8:00-9:00

Business Session

Recognition of Banner Societies

Friday—12:30

Luncheon and program planned by the Lanark and Milledgeville, Illinois Societies.

Saturday morning—8:00-9:00

"A Day With Bea Bischof"
Installation of Officers

Mrs. Vernon Grisso,
Vice President of W. M. S.

NATIONAL LAYMEN'S PROGRAM

SLOGAN—COME OUT AND MEET THE BRETHREN

Theme—Psalm I

Tuesday, August 14—8:00-9:00 A. M.

Hymn Singing
Call to Worship
Devotions—Park Street Brethren Laymen
Business—Committee Appointments, Goals Report

Tuesday—2:45-3:45 P. M.

Panel Discussion—John C. Eck, Leader
Topic to be supplied

Tuesday—7:25-9:00 P. M.

Laymen's General Conference Hour
Inspirational Hour Sponsored by Laymen
Devotions—Isaac Litton
Special Presentation—to be selected
Address—Malvin R. Goode, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Active Layman—Reporter on Pittsburgh Courier, Largest Negro Newspaper in World. Also, Newscaster on Radio and T. V., Pittsburgh.

Wednesday, August 15—8:00-9:00 A. M.

Hymn Singing
Call to Worship
Devotions—Everett Keplinger
Business—Missionary Home Report
New Project

Wednesday—2:45-3:45 P. M.

Devotions—Simeon Stogsdill
Address—Dr. Glenn L. Clayton

Thursday, August 16—8:00-9:00 A. M.

Hymn Singing
Call to Worship
Devotions—Lester Schmeidt
Business—Election and Installation of New Officers

Thursday—2:45-3:45 P. M.

Devotions—Charles Moredock
Panel Discussion Led by H. B. Puterbaugh
Topic—"The Brethren Laymen Utilized and Not Utilized"

Friday, August 17—8:00-9:00 A. M.

Hymn Singing
Call to Worship
Devotions—Larry Martin
Business—The Brethren Laymen

Friday—1:45-2:45 P. M.

Inspirational Hour
Sponsored by Laymen and Brotherhood Officers
Panel Discussion
Panel to be selected at National Conference

Friday—5:30 P. M.

Ministers-Laymen's Banquet
This Program in Charge of Ministers

Saturday, August 18—8:00-9:00 A. M.

Hymn Singing
Call to Worship
Devotions—John Rieger
Business—Unfinished Business

Saturday—2:00 P. M.

Laymen's Executive Meeting

SISTERHOOD PROGRAM

THEME: Treasures of Gold

Tuesday

Treasure of the Home

Piano Prelude
Welcome by the National Officers
Scripture and special number .....Southeastern District
Committees appointed
Speaker .....Marguerite Kraft
S. M. M. Benediction

Wednesday morning

Speaker .....Mrs. Delbert Flora, Ashland, Ohio
Scripture and special number .....Indiana District

Wednesday afternoon

The Ashland S. M. M. members are presenting a pageant.
Tea—the S. M. M. girls send a special invitation to the W. M. S. to attend this program.

Thursday

Treasure of Knowledge

Piano Prelude
Group Singing
Scripture and special number .....Ohio District
Election of National Officers
Speaker .....Jean Lersch
S. M. M. Benediction

Friday

Treasure of God

Piano Prelude
Group Singing
Scripture and special number .....Pennsylvania District
General Secretary's Report .....Carol Berkshire
Speaker .....Pauline Benshoff
Gathering of Missionary Offering
S. M. M. Benediction

Saturday

The Joy and Use of Treasures

Piano Prelude
Group Singing
Scripture and special number
Central and Mid-west Districts
Miscellaneous Business
S. M. M. Scholarship awarded
Installation of new officers
Speaker .....Janet King Fox
S. M. M. Benediction

BOYS' BROTHERHOOD PROGRAM

Tuesday—8:00 A. M.

The Call .....Rev. J. D. Hamel

Wednesday—8:00 A. M.

The Answer .....Rev. Phil Lersch

Thursday—8:00 A. M.

Preparation .....Chuck and Marguerite Kraft

Friday—8:00 A. M.

The Action .....Bob and Bea Bischof

Saturday—8:00 A. M.

Brotherhood Breakfast .....Brookside Park

(Continued on Next Page)

BRETHREN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

Tuesday—8:00 A. M.

Devotions
Memorials

Wednesday—8:00 A. M.

Devotions
Minutes
Election of Officers
Report of Secretary-Treasurer

Thursday—8:00 A. M.

Devotions
Minutes
Business
Address .....Dr. John F. Locke
"The Approved Workman"

Friday—8:00 A. M.

Devotions
Minutes
Business
Report of Committees

Saturday—8:00 A. M.

Devotions
Minutes
Business
Final reading of minutes
Address .....Dr. W. D. Furry

BRETHREN YOUTH CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Theme and Text, I John 3:18:
"Let us love in deed and in truth."

Monday afternoon

4:00 Registration (Founders Hall)
Brethren Youth must present credentials to register.

Monday Evening

7:30- 9:30 Attend General Session
9:14-10:09 T. V. Party (Student Union)
Free Popcorn

Tuesday morning

8:00- 9:00 Brotherhood and Sisterhood Sessions
9:14-10:19 CHAPEL
9:14- 9:26 Hymn Singing
9:26-10:01 "You" ..Dr. J. Garber Drushal
10:02-10:19 Devotions, Special Music
Announcements
10:20-11:14 "PEP"—Bring some
11:15-11:59 Choir Rehearsal
Workshop

Tuesday afternoon

1:14- 2:16 Business at hand
2:17- 3:20 Crafts .....Rev. John Byler
3:30 Recreation

Tuesday evening

6:45- 7:15 Vespers: "Jonathan" .....Dr. Drushal
7:25- 9:00 Attend General Session

Wednesday morning

8:00- 9:00 Brotherhood and Sisterhood Sessions
9:14-10:19 CHAPEL
9:14- 9:26 Hymn Singing
9:26-10:01 "You and the Church"
Dr. Drushal
10:02-10:19 Devotions, Special Music
Announcements
10:20-11:14 "PEP"
11:15-11:59 Choir Rehearsal
Workshop

Wednesday afternoon

1:14- 2:16 Business Meeting—Forward Look
2:17- 3:20 Crafts .....Rev. John Byler
3:00- 4:00 S. M. M. Tea (Little Theater)
3:30 Recreation

Wednesday evening

6:45- 7:15 Vespers: "Mephibosheth" .....Dr. Drushal
7:25- 9:00 Attend General Session
9:14-10:09 T.V. Party (Student Union)
Free Popcorn

Thursday morning

8:00- 9:00 Brotherhood and Sisterhood Sessions
9:14-10:19 CHAPEL
9:14- 9:26 Hymn Singing
9:26-10:01 "You and the Brethren Church"
Dr. Drushal
10:02-10:19 Devotions, Special Music
Announcements
10:20-11:14 "PEP"
11:15-11:59 Choir Rehearsal
Workshop

Thursday afternoon

1:14- 2:31 Crafts .....Rev. John Byler
2:00 Summer Workers' Tea
3:00 Picnic

Thursday evening

6:45- 7:15 Vespers: "Daniel" .....Dr. Drushal
7:25- 9:00 Attend General Session

Friday morning

8:00- 9:00 Brotherhood and Sisterhood Sessions
9:14-10:19 CHAPEL
9:14- 9:26 Hymn Singing
9:26-10:01 "You and the Brethren Church Tomorrow" .... Dr. Drushal
10:02-10:19 Devotions, Special Music
Announcements
10:20-11:14 "PEP"
11:15-11:59 Choir Rehearsal
Workshop

Friday afternoon

1:14- 2:16 "SURPRISE"
2:17- 3:20 Crafts .....Rev. John Byler
3:30 Recreation

Friday evening

6:45- 7:15 Vespers: "Ezra" .....Dr. Drushal
7:25- 9:00 Attend General Session
9:14 Campfire

Saturday morning

8:00- 9:00 Brotherhood and Sisterhood Sessions
9:14-10:01 "PEP" Project Offering for B. Y.
10:02-10:19 Devotions, Special Music
Announcements
10:20-10:34 Hymn Singing
10:35-11:14 "Atoms to Spare" .....Dr. Drushal
11:15-11:59 Choir Rehearsal
Workshop

Saturday afternoon

1:30- 2:30 "Songs in the Afternoon"
In the Chapel
2:46- 3:29 Crafts .....Rev. John Byler
3:30 Recreation

Saturday evening

5:30 Dress-up Banquet (Place will be announced)
6:45- 7:15 Vespers: "Nehemiah" .....Dr. Drushal
7:30- 9:00 Brethren Youth Conference Program
Speaker: Rolf Stolpner (just returned from Europe)
9:14 Saturday Night Round-up

Sunday morning

7:15 Brethren Youth Communion at Park Street Church
9:30-10:15 Sunday School in Founders Hall
Teacher, Rev. Wayne Swihart
10:30-11:30 Worship Hour in Chapel

Food For The Faithful

Rev. George W. Solomon

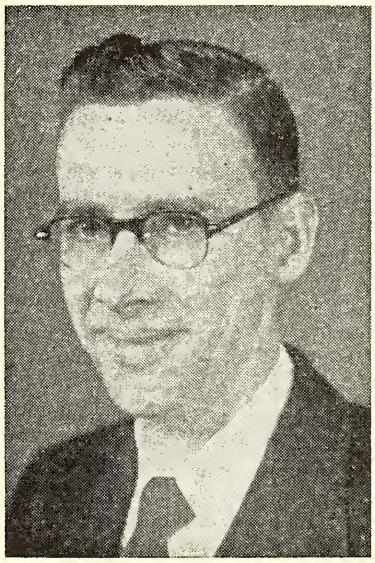
THERE ARE TWO EXTREMITIES in life—too old or too young. This is true in the economic and industrial areas of our world; it is true in the social circles that function everywhere. It is true also, I am afraid, in the church. In considering the many phases of activity in the church there are those that are too young and those that are too old. As I look at the men and women, boys and girls who belong in these two categories I realize, as you do, that they cannot help being in these age groups. We all were once in the first category and, God willing, we shall each someday be in the latter.

I have the feeling that this should never be the condition in our church. There should never be an age group that did not have a place in our labors and a place in our hearts. Jesus called to Himself all men, the very young as well as the aged.

It has been a joy to me to see the increased interest in the Brethren Church in relation to our very active and growing youth program and also our increased determination to care for our aged Brothers and Sisters who have given their best years to the church.

In the annual project "FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL" these two groups are brought closer together than in any other church function or program. I have wondered if our Brethren are well enough acquainted with this annual Youth project. If we had a better understanding and awareness of the program, it might mean a more lively interest and a growing determination to support such an undertaking.

If my recollection is correct, "FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL" is now in its fifth year and, I believe the credit for its existence belongs to Brother Charles Munson. Brother Munson, at the time of the birth of FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL, was National director of our Brethren Youth. He was always searching for new ways



in which Youth might serve their church and the Lord Jesus Christ. From this constant searching, and awareness of the needs of our Brethren's Home, came the seed-thoughts that germinated and became a very worthy service in the form of an annual ingathering of Food for the Faithful at our Brethren's Home. Each year since that time at National Conference Brethren Youth has labored to gather food, and money to purchase the same, for these deserving saints of our Brethren's Home. The writer of this article is now serving his third year as director of this special youth undertaking and he has

(Continued on Page 13)

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

WHEN THE BROOK DRIED

God knew when the widow's cruse was low
And the meal was almost gone,
And He dried the brook where Elijah drank,
And He sent His servant on,
That the handful of meal should not be spent,
Or the little oil grow less,
And that, when the widow's son lay dead
The prophet's prayer should bless.

Hath He dried the brook where thou long hast dwelt?
Canst thou find no solace there?
Zarephath is ready if Cherith fail,
With oil and meal to share.
Oh, tarry not, should He bid thee go,
His messenger thou shalt be;
Thou shalt carry a blessing to those who wait,
And a blessing waiteth thee.

—Annie Johnson Flint.

GOD IS NOT LIMITED in the harvest, but in the harvest hands (Matt. 9:37, 38). He needs the right man in the right place at the right time (Luke 10:2). But some are like Jonah—hard for God to move to the field where He wants them to operate (Jonah 1:1-3). Then God has to whip them into doing His bidding (Jonah 1:4-7). It does not pay to "jonah" on the Lord (Jonah 2:5, 9). God has a man-power, a labor problem —He has to wait not for conditions but for men to get right (Jonah 3:1, 2). The man problem is such a pressing problem with God and His losing harvest that the matter is mentioned even the third time (John 4:34-36). The wages are satisfactory. Never mind the working conditions because the harvest IS ripe.

God is waiting on men, and revival is postponed for lack of men (2 Chron. 7:14). The sinners are hungry, but God's people are lacking in bread (Luke 11:5, 6). That is what Jesus taught in answer to the request, "Lord, teach us to pray!" God never gives a revival until He finds men willing and eager to be used of Him. This is illustrated by Elijah's challenge to the people at Mt. Carmel when he prayed down fire from Heaven (1 Kings 18:37-39). When Jesus came to Jacob's well in Samaria His disciples had no concern about getting any one saved (John 4:27). But Jesus stayed there two days, and many of the Samaritans came unto Him (John 4:40, 41). The strange thing is that God always has to wait on His people to have a revival. It took a ten-day prayer meeting to bring about a Pentecost because God's people were without the power of God (Acts 1:4, 8).

Though seven thousand had not bowed the knee to Baal, Elijah had to stand alone for God on Mt. Carmel (1 Kings 19:18; Rom. 11:2-4). God has to use only what is available. Jonah seemed to be all God had to send to Nineveh. Jesus and one convert brought about the revival at Sychar as the disciples did not seem to co-operate (2 Cor. 6:1). Would there have been a Pentecost without Peter (Acts 2:14)? Just a short time before the Lord had had to restore Peter from his seven downward steps into perfect backsliding (John 21:17).

God had a way of getting Paul and other workers from place to place and to the right place (Acts 17:6-9). Sometimes it required disagreement among the workers to get the gospel spread (Acts 15:37-41), or more often it was persecution that sent them on their way (Acts 20:1). Regardless of what it took to scatter the Christians for getting out the Word, "they went everywhere preaching the Word" (Acts 8:4, 5). As for retirement three years was enough for Paul in Arabia (Gal. 1:17, 18), and Elijah was not to enjoy the solitude of ravine of Cherith indefinitely (1 Kings 17:8, 9). God expects a re-capped man to resume God's work (1 Kings 17:24; 18:1).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for August 12, 1956

THE WAY OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Lesson: I John 1:1-10

AN OLD LANCASHIRE woman was listening to the reasons that the neighbors were giving for their minister's success. They spoke of his gifts, of his style of his manner. "Nay," said she, "I tell you what it is. Yon man is very thick with the Almighty."

That which gives a Christian spiritual power is **Fellowship with God.** The key-word of the First Epistle of St. John is "Fellowship." This is true even though the word is found only four times in the entire book, and that alone in chapter one.

Notice how the theme of "Fellowship" is carried throughout the book:

Chapter 1—John says "God is Light" (vs. 5)—Hence, **Fellowship with God** depends upon our walking in the light.

Chapter 2—John says "God is Righteous" (vs. 29)—Hence, **Fellowship with God** depends upon righteous living.

Chapter 4—John says "God is Love" (vs. 7-8)—Hence, **Fellowship with God** depends upon our possessing and manifesting divine love.

Fellowship with God is a precious experience all too few Christians enjoy. It could be said of Enoch that he "walked with God" (Gen. 5:24); and of Abraham that he was called "the Friend of God" (James 2:23). These Godly men knew what it was to share the Companionship of the Almighty!

Surely this is what C. Austin Miles meant when he wrote:

"And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known."

There are, however, conditions which John says must be met before you can experience **Fellowship with God.**

1. He who desires **Fellowship with God** must first of all be in right relationship with God. He must partake of "that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us" (1:2). Only through the New Birth can spiritual life be imparted.

2. He who desires **Fellowship with God** must be in right relationship with his fellowmen. Several places in the book this thought is suggested, such as 1:3, 7. In 3:14 we read: "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."

3. He who desires **Fellowship with God** must walk in the light and not in darkness (1:5-7). "If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light. . ."

4. Finally, he who desires **Fellowship wth God** must be free from sin (1:7-10). This does not mean, as John makes clear, that we should deny the existence of sin within our lives. But, rather, we should go to the Lord and admit that sin dwells within us, and then be freed from that sin by confessing it unto Him. For, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1:9).

Enoch enjoyed God's Presence and Companionship because he "walked with God." More blessed than this, it could be said, therefore, that Enoch "had this testimony, that he pleased God" (Heb. 11:5).

"Friendship with Jesus, Fellowship divine,
O what blessed, sweet communion,
Jesus is a friend of mine."

FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL

(Continued from Page 11)

seen it grow each succeeding year, but has never felt that the Brethren had reached a maximum in their support of this program.

It appears from this vantage point that our folks who regularly attend conference have supported whole-heartedly the program with gifts of food and money while a much lesser interest has been shown by the "Church back home." I am sure that these folks would support the program if they had a greater understanding of its functioning, and this is the chief purpose of this article.

The work of Brethren Youth Crusaders has proven that there is a place in the labors of the church for the youth. The many successful and useful projects, on both District and National levels, have attested to this fact.

It is an old saying, "These youth are the church of tomorrow and so they deserve our support." Never a truer statement was spoken, BUT, these youth are also the church in action TODAY! Tomorrow never really arrives, and the future is always uncertain as to time. Our Youth deserve our backing of their various programs, not because they are a future possibility, but because they are a present reality! B. Y. C. is just as real a part of our overall church program as is the W. M. S. and the Laymen organizations of our church. Their work is limited only as the church limits it. B. Y. C. has all the desirable faculties of youth, eagerness, stamina, zeal, enthusiasm, and, above all, a deep desire to be of service to their Lord and Master Jesus Christ and His Church.

In our present appeal, "FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL," our youth have found a place in the labors of our church and have awakened within us all our responsibilities to the other extremity of life—our aged Brethren. In our Brethren's Home, now filled to capacity, are many men and women who have served their Lord and the Brethren Church for a great number of years. Your writer is personally acquainted with several of the residents of the Home and knows of the great sacrifices and endless labors of these under trying circumstances. Yet these have labored faithfully and all too often without receiving any recognition for their "service beyond the call of duty," and never asking it, knowing that they served their Lord who would justly reward them for their faithfulness.

Yet there comes always to my mind the words of our Lord, "In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." These words express an obligation and privilege of the church in caring for those who are now in need of such care. In a February issue of the **Brethren Evangelist** I find these words written by the President of the Benevolent Board, J. R. Johnston: "It surely is a privilege instead of a duty to serve our Lord by supporting the Home especially when we have such a splendid place towards which we may direct our efforts. How better can we express this interest than in helping to provide a good Church Home for our aged?" In that same issue was also presented a chart and a report showing the present expenses **increasing** and the present income **decreasing.** Brethren, I know you will NOT permit this condition to long exist.

FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL becomes in the present situation first, an opportunity to help erase this deficiency; second, an opportunity to say "thank you" to those who have served so well; third, an opportunity to serve the Lord; fourth, it serves not only as a benefit to our aged but also to our youth for it teaches them how they can serve; it teaches them responsibility and gives them opportunity to experience the fulfilling of the promise, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

As National Conference time draws near Brethren Youth asks your support of FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL. If you classify yourself as a "Youth" then this is definitely your project. If you consider yourself as among the "Aged" then you know better than any the need for such a program. If you do not consider yourself in either of these categories then you must be the backbone of our church today and we appeal to your ability to aid in this worthy undertaking.

Gretna, Ohio.

BRING YOUR FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL TO GENERAL CONFERENCE. A PLACE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOUR CANNED GOODS AND NON-PERISHABLE FOODS. CASH GIFTS ALSO RECEIVED.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

HEAR YE HERE, YE!

YESSIREE bob, HERE IS WHERE YOU HEAR about the latest developments for the National Brethren Youth Conference—you know when, August 13-19 at Ashland College. By reading past epistles you are conscious of Dr. Drushal, "Pep," T.V. parties, campfire, B. Y. communion, crafts and many other features of this year's program. But the following, which is the latest, you have never heard, yet.

First, Lois Berkshire says, "Coming to conference this year? Everyone bring along OLD SHEETS, PILLOW CASES, other CLEAN WHITE CLOTH, and willing hands. We can help others, and also have a good time while rolling bandages in Brethren Youth Workshops. We will need plenty to work with to help our African friends, so if you adult Brethren Youth will bring materials too, you will be helping Brethren Youth help others." This is new, so latch-on to the idea quickly. Lois has consented to direct this forty-five minute workshop each day when the young people will roll bandages. Bring some cloth along so they have something to work with.

Next, Be it known that Chuck Huff will be the Brethren Youth song leader for the week. He will be assisted by Connie Hitchman who will hold forth at the pianoforte at all of our song services.

SPECIAL NOTICE! All B. Y. are requested to bring gym clothes, including gym shoes especially, with them. Some of the directed recreation will take place on the college gym floor and you must have proper equipment to participate.

SHORTIES

Rev. John Byler and several helpers are still arranging to have craft materials for B. Y. at conference.

Please don't lay this "Evangelist" down until you've read George Solomon's "Food for the Faithful" article. Then put some in the auto before leaving home—along with the bandage cloth.

Be sure to find the story that goes with that cover picture.

If you have forgotten the importance of Brethren Youth Credentials, see your pastor, the June 30th **"Brethren Evangelist,"** and the last "Brethren Youth Magazine." If in further darkness, come to conference.

THEM GALS

The Crusaders are still serving Jesus Christ and you, the Brethren Church, by conducting a Bible School at Fremont, Ohio from July 23 to August 5. Joann Rummel, Beverly Johnson, and Janet Lowmaster are using their abilities and dedication to enrich more young lives with spiritual truth and values. Can we enlist some more to do this work next summer?

OUT I-O-WAY

The last time I wrote you, we at Camp Blackhawk were looking forward to Decision Day. That day was a joy from beginning to end. The highlight, of course, wa the Galilean Service in the evening. The women floate candles in eggshells on the water, music was provided b quartet and flute, and Rev. A. T. Ronk stood at the on end of the water and challenged all of us. Believe me you place more confidence in B. Y. when 48 rededicat their lives and nineteen give themselves for full-tim service. It's wonderful the way God brings joy to us i experiences that can't be lost or stolen, which is not tru of possessions obtained with silver.

EVERYONE CAN SEE THE FISHBOWL AT CONFERENCE

"I LEAD THREE LIVES"

This statement almost appears to be true when you youth director attempts to be more than one place a once. Here are some notes and reports from the travel of the past few weeks.

SHIPSHEWANA . . . July 10: Jean and I stopped of for the afternoon and received a cordial welcome fro all the staff. Some of the crafts used here will be avail able at National Conference. The opportunity to spea with the campers as soon as supper was over was muc appreciated.

LINWOOD PARK . . . July 12-15: You'll recall tha this was the location for the Ohio District Conferenc which included special youth programs. Over 50 B. Y benefited from the planning by coming to the lake. Som special youth features were the speaker, Rev. Gra Carothers, B. Y. prayer meeting, campfire, sunrise se vice (Boy, was that a windy ordeal—but Kep and Do still took in the morning dip), and beach banquet. Al in-all we can say that those of you that stayed hom missed a good time—and also several serious challenge to your life. Hope to see you next year. More of the sam will be done.

ASHLAND . . . July 15: Brookside Park was the sit for the Ashland Youth Council public service, at whic occasion I was privileged to be the speaker.

JOHNSTOWN . . . July 16-19: This program for th youth at Pennsylvania District Conference had as i theme "The Glory of Service." The Bischofs and th Lersches surely enjoyed this opportunity to associat with these active and interested "Kids from the hills —in definite contrast to the lay of the land in Indian for instance. The cooperative spirit was excellent. I ho none of you have forgotten that message by Rev. Klin ensmith on Thursday, as well as all the ways of servi we talked about after his talk. The singing (both hym and "Pioneer"), recreation (Who has the whistle), cam fire at Howards, camp rally and Benshoff hospitality a contributed to make this an experience that I sincere hope will be repeated and expanded again next yea Can we have some more of you Keystoners then?

ELKHART . . . July 22: Filling the pulpit for Re Higgins was just a part of the most enjoyable day spent there. That was a swell talk we had concernin Brethren Youth work after our picnic lunch at the hon of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Myers. Regardless of who w the ball game, I hope your ice cream social was a su cess. This was one way they were doing their part make the 1956 project a success. All of you bring th

project money to Conference. Thank you, Elkhart Brethren Youth, for a meaningful visit.

MANCHESTER . . . July 24-27: I enjoyed fellowshipping with Dean Flora, Rev. Fairbanks and 140 other delegates at this meeting of the Historic Peace Churches.

HOME . . . now: Last minute plans are being formulated for the coming Ambassador tour and also National Youth Conference. Come one and all.

BRETHREN, I LOVE BRETHREN YOUTH
YOU SHOULD TOO

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

HAVE A HEART? But, of course doesn't everyone? We're not talking about that ticking organism inside our chests, but about something that makes us love. Life can be a dark narrow corridor or a lighted way. You can travel down your own dark selfish corridor—receiving, snatching, and giving nothing in return, or you can reach out to love and to give. Then the walls of the corridor vanish, and love rights the way. It becomes the "more excellent way" described by Paul in I Corinthians 13: "Though I understand. . .all knowledge, and though I have all faith. . .and have not love, I am nothing."

Remember John 3:16 which says that: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Also Abraham loved his son so much that he was willing to sacrifice him as God commanded.

Happiness is simply a by-product of loving. Open up your heart to your friends and your family. Show genuine concern for their problems, go out of your way to help someone else. How many use the motto: Christ first, Others second and Self last? Sometimes it is hard for us to work with others. Sometimes we think we can do better by working by ourselves. Again, we wish to remind you that Jesus worked with and through others always. Let us be more like the Master, loving and working together.

We as W. M. S. members should show the love of Christ so much that we would be able to draw others to the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

In closing, let us think, what kind of a heart do I have?

Search me, O God, and know my heart today,
Try me, O Saviour, know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me,
Cleanse me from every sin, and set me free.

Mrs. G. Bright Hanna,

Wabash, Indiana
(College Corner Church)

What's Doing in the Churches

PLEASANT VIEW BRETHREN CHURCH,
Vandergrift, Pa.

Greetings to all the Brethren in Jesus' name.

"God is faithful." Therefore all glory to Him for anything that has been accomplished in our Church. For nearly a year now we have had the privilege of giving full time service to this good Church. It has been a time of blessing from the Lord and from the people. For seven years I was Pastor of this Church and the Brush Valley Church. Then I became Pastor of this church alone on November 1st of last year. Since that date attendance has grown steadily, and the harmony of the membership which was such a blessing during the seven years has continued, also their love for their Pastor.

As many know, we are worshipping in the basement unit of the Church. This has all been paid for since soon after moving into it. In addition, the cash in the Building Fund, for the superstructure, continues to increase. Soon, perhaps next Spring, the Congregation should be able to begin the construction of the upper part of the Church Building.

During this year a Sisterhood of Mary and Martha has been organized under the auspices of the W. M. S., and the personal efforts of Miss Thelma Fish, Mrs. Grace Rosensteel and Mrs. Naff. This S. M. M. now numbers eleven girls in its membership and they are working together happily and enthusiastically.

Membership in the Church has grown also during this year, five members having been received by baptism and two more are soon to be received. This has been since November 1955 and during that time no revival meeting was held.

We trust in the Lord that this Church shall continue to grow and build, and that the Lord will bless their leadership. The writer of this report will be closing his Pastoral service in this Church with the end of September 1956. May the Lord provide a good Pastor in my place.

Paul M. Naff, Pastor.

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Man Shall Not Live by Bread Alone

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Items of General Interest

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Hubert Fowler, of Williamsport, was the speaker at the Laymen sponsored service in the St. James church on August 5th.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Brother Robert Hoffman, pastor of the Smithville, Ohio, church, was the guest speaker in the Wayne Heights church on July 22nd.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. The W. M. S. held their public service on July 22nd, with Mrs. Elmer Keck as speaker.

CAMERON, W. VA.—Quiet Dell, PENNA. Brother Cecil Bolton, Jr. has received and has accepted a call for another year as pastor of the Cameron and Quiet Dell churches.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Brother L. V. King has accepted the call of the church to serve as pastor for another year.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Brother John T. Byler was recalled for another year as pastor, by a unanimous vote of the congregation.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. Three new members were received recently.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. The Laymen conducted the morning worship service on July 29th.

Nappanee Brethren was host church to the Union Sunday evening service on July 29th.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Mary Elizabeth Gentle arrived to make her home with Brother and Sister Spencer Gentle and family, on July 31st.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Guest speaker on August 12th will be Rev. Don Beldin, St. Joseph County YFC Director.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. The Junior and Senior Sisterhood Societies presented their public program the morning of July 22nd.

Two new members were received into the church recently.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Brother H. Francis Berkshire writes: "Our Win-One Class won $50.00 as first prize for the best float in the 'Old Settler's Day' parade on July 26th. This is the second time in three years that our church has placed first in this event. This class is a newly organized class of post-high school students. They hope to enter it in the Carroll County Fair parade during August. The float consisted of a ten foot high lighthouse standing on a huge Bible. Blue streamers and white rocks depicted the water. The theme, written in large eight inch letters, was 'The Light of the World is Jesus.' "

TUCSON, ARIZONA. Two new members were received into the Tucson church during July.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT. Sisterhoods of Mary and Martha have been recently organized in Stockton, Lathrop and Manteca churches. A district organization is to be effected in September. Five converts

(Continued on Page 14)

ATTENTION: LITERATURE SECRETARIES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Fourth Quarter Order Blanks have been mailed. If you fail to receive one, please notify the office.

BE SURE TO RETURN THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to insure receiving your Sunday School supplies on time. ORDER NOW, AND AVOID DELAY.

The Brethren Publishing Company,
Ashland, Ohio.

The Editor's Pulpit

Not By Bread Alone

A FEW WEEKS AGO, when it was announced that the wheat crop was going to be less than a year ago, and now with some sections of the country suffering from too much rain and others from too little, we were made to think of the fine balance between having enough to eat and being hungry.

We Americans are pretty sensitive about our food and eating habits. From the strict three square meals a day, to eating at all hours of the day and night; from over-eating to the point of intemperance, to a figity mincing of a plateful of good food; we have it all. Whether we eat a lot, often, or mince and pick, as a nation it shows that the matter of our food possesses a large measure of our time and concern.

For many years, we Americans have known an abundance of food. So much so, that we seem to be able to order a full meal and leave half of it on our plates, we seem to have been able to rear a generation of youth who have never learned the discipline and character building quality of "eat what's set before you or do without." This has led to an attitude of "there's plenty, why worry." But is there plenty? Two-thirds of the world's human population going from dawn to dark and dark to dawn, always hungry, ever seeking for food. Scientists tell us that if we did not wage a constant warfare against bugs, worms and beetles, that in a few short years, these creatures would consume every bit of green vegetation on the face of the earth.

Drouth, floods, etc., cutting down on the production of our farms and gardens. Hardly noticed in a land of plenty, but warnings to us of what could happen. God has certainly favored us Americans with His bountiful provisions. The surest guarantee that these great blessings shall continue is to show our appreciation in life, worship and service. God holds the lever which swings the balance between enough to eat and famine.

There is another food problem facing us, too, that even in spite of the extreme emphasis on food for the body, is even yet far more important. This great food problem is the food for the soul. Here, though, the problem is not so much the supply of food, as it is the willingness of the soul hungry people to eat of it. Hunger in the midst of plenty. Many neglecting church attendance; many never opening their Bibles for daily reading; many never praying except on emergency order. This food problem is the far more serious. A well-fed body with a starved soul is in no fit condition to meet the moral and social temptations of our day; it is in less condition to meet its Maker.

We grant that much of the "spiritual food" being shoved down the throats of many Church members today reeks with false doctrine, half-truths and devilish antics. On full religious stomachs, many are starved spiritually.

Thus, the spiritual food we need is that furnished by Him who is the Bread of Life, even Christ. Having received it, we must eat thereof. Having eaten, we must break the Bread to others. We can know when we are well-fed spiritually, for the soul is happy and satisfied in the midst of evil and sin. The soul is militated to action on the strength derived therefrom, to go to work telling others about the Christ who died to save them.

Yes, dear friends, there is great concern over the world's food basket, and there should be, for food cannot be manufactured—it must grow, under the love and care of the Creator. Would that there would be the same great concern on the part of all who profess to bear His Name, that there should be no "shortage" of spiritual food—for themselves and for others. W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Boyhood Days on the old Deffenbaugh Farm

Part Two

THE SUGAR OR MAPLE SYRUP SEASON was always a charming time. The large camps on various sections of the large farm were tapped and hundreds of buckets were hung on the spiles. These have been called in various sections of the East "Keelers," but we just heard them called "Sugar Buckets." While we had to be in school except Saturdays and nights, every moment possible would be spent either on the sleds or in the "sugar house" with its gleaming fires under the evaporating pans, and its room filled with steam from the open pans. To those responsible for gathering the sugar water and hauling it to the house, it was little fun but hard work as well as a wet job. The horses were trained to go and stop at times but now and then got mixed up and when a heavy bucket was elevated to the top of the hogshead in which the water was being conveyed to the house, they would start up. The result often was part of the sugar water going into the hogshead and the rest down the neck of the unfortunate worker. In the house there was a dish handy and we had all the maple syrup we wanted. Charlie did most of the boiling. He had learned to speak and read the German while in Ashland. So we boys always enjoyed being with him. We would get him to "talk Dutch," to us or for us. He always wore his hair in a crew cut which intrigued us. He wore it this way all his life.

Charlie was always interesting and did not mind our pranks as much as Uncle Sam. We liked to hitch our sleds back of his big sled when he was gathering sugar water, because he let us do pretty much as we pleased. The trees were tapped often the second time before the season closed. One day when in a hurry, Charlie tapped a Chestnut tree. He was not permitted to forget this. When it rained it was necessary to go around and empty the buckets. So to overcome this, wooden lids some 14 inches square were sawed out, approximately a half inch thick. Liking to climb trees, and not always having limbs handy, Earl and the writer had an idea. It was to take some of these lids, as many as we needed, split off sections some two inches wide and make cleats to nail to the trees or tree. We did this. Then there was another problem, that of nails. This was easily cared for, by climbing upon the roof of the Spring House, and with a claw hammer pulling out what wrought iron nails that we needed. Down to the woods we went and nailed cleats some twenty or more feet up the side of the tree. A few years ago the tree was still standing with a cleat or two high up on the tree.The matter was not altogether unalloyed joy to Uncle Sam. He was very unhappy over the matter because the shingles came off the Spring House, not to mention the ruining of the sugar bucket lids. It was for the same reason that the shingles came off the Bake Oven. We needed the nails for other purposes.

Usually about half through the sugar making season as they called it, they washed up the Evaporating pans. It took approximately 30 or 32 gallons of sugar water to make a gallon of syrup and that meant much firing under the pans. Thinking one day that it would be a good idea to black our faces from the black on the bottoms of the pans we did so. Charlie encouraged us to do so. Then we were sent home. There was some more scouring done then, which was on our tops and not on the bottoms of the pans. Our yells did not cause our mother to ease up much in the job of making us white again. The old sugar house is gone, but there are still maples waiting for the tapping if anyone desires to do so. Then the treat of treats when the syrup was boiled down and we had taffy. Food for the gods.

In 1898 when it was decided to build the church upon the Deffenbaugh farm, it was unalloyed joy for us small boys. We were side walk supervisors, and at times "strayed from the walk," and had to be chased out of the way.

One day when the building was being completed, and the high tower stood without a bell a man drove by. "Where is the bell?" he asked. Hearing him the writer hastily climbed to the tower and looking down said, "I am the bell." When Dad who was working on the job learned of this, the substitute bell came down in a hurry.

The Church being so near meant that going to Sunday School and Church was not such a long trip as it had been before the erection of the building. Sunday School and Church were held every other Sunday and at other times was held at the Bethel Church west of Glenford.

Maggie and Mary Hoover were women preachers who from time to time preached at both churches. Rev. Quincy Leckrone, also preached at the Berachah Church. As this is being written he lives at Thornville, Ohio, and is 93 years of age. He still preaches, and writes Sunday School Lesson Comments. We boys were given a penny to place in the Sunday School offering, when the penny was available.

As far as money was concerned in those days times were hard, but in regard to many other things, not too bad. Living cost little, as most of it was raised on the farm. When desiring to go to the fish-pond, to fish we had to hunt for a long time for a tin can for our bait. When one was found it was carefully treasured and used over and over again. Home canning was done in stone jars. A tin lid was held down while melted rosin was poured upon the edges of the lid, thus sealing it. When on Sunday when there was company it was a familiar sight to see mother chipping the rosin from around the side of the lid and then blowing the dust from the top of the jug. Appetites were good in those days and the average boy was mainly appetite surrounded by a skin.

Saturdays were always looked forward to as we went up on the hill where, with Aunt Mary or Minnie as teachers, we studied the Sunday School Lesson. They were good teachers. Minnie also was the one who tied aprons around our necks and cut our hair from time to time. Of course we never knew when it was needed and had to be told. We were concerned not at all about it. We could not afford to go to the Barber Shop, as hair cuts cost from 10 to 15 cents.

Virgil Ankrum, was born in the frame house, Ivan and Ferol were born in the Brick. Ferol is now Mrs. Carl Fisher of near Gratiot. Ivan lives on the home place three quarters of a mile south of Gratiot. Virgil lives in Zanesville. Earl Ankrum lives in Gratiot, Ohio.

There were many tasks which interfered with our play. They were attuned to our childish abilities but they interfered with our play and were not welcomed. Picking blackberries on a hot summer day was not a pleasure. There was the churning down in the cool spring house with the old dasher churn. We watched with interest to see the butter fragments cling to the handle indicating that "the butter had come." One day we had an idea. There was a butter crock nearby. So what was to prevent taking some chunks and placing them around the dasher handle and on the lid. This was done and then with a yell, "Ma, the butters come," we hiked out for parts unknown. (By the way, this idea was only good for one time.)

We had been told that frog legs were good. So one day we caught one and prepared it for cooking. A tin cup was secured and there was a handy fire in the old Dry House nearby. So the frog was "cooked." It could have been we thought, for it had been subject to the heat for ten minutes or more. Well, we ate it.

Never tiring of stories, Aunt Mary was bothered or any one else who would give them to us. Grand mother Ankrum spent much time with us. She was also a good story teller. One of the pictures on memory's list is that of sitting by the grate fire in the living room of the brick house. There on the mantle stood the kerosene lamp. The flickering flames from the grate painted various pictures on the walls of the room. Mother would reach up to the corner of the mantle and take down her well worn New Testament and read to us from it. One of the words remembered was in the reading of the letters of Paul. The word "Gentiles" seemed to stand out by itself. Sleepy eyes half closed listened and then were shooed up stairs to bed. After a night's sleep was there not another day of adventure? Life then had few worries that lasted any length of time. There was a fireplace in the basement of the brick house. On long and cold winter evenings a fire would be built down there. Chestnuts would be roasted and apples baked in the ashes. It was in this basement that intensive search was made following the death of "Aunt Betsy," for money supposed to have been hidden some where around the place. There are those who contend that there is still somewhere around the place buried funds.

ARMSTRONG AND LUCINDA MACK ANKRUM,
Parents of the Author, taken on their
Golden Wedding Anniversary

If money had been a requisite for happiness, there would have been very little on the old farm. The largest amount of money that Dad ever had at one time during the eight years there was $90.00. This was come by in selling one of his horses. A suit of store bought clothes was a rarity. We were mostly clothed in made-over clothes from stocks given us by Mrs. Dr. Forquer and Mrs. J. D. Findley. Mother, a good seamstress made little suits for us.

A man came through the country demonstrating a new invention. Various folk gathered at the Deffenbaugh house on the hill one night and there was a very interesting machine said to "talk." There was a long rubber tube extending from the machine which branched off in the form of a "Y," with a tube for each ear. Sure enough there were voices. This was of course the beginning of the Phonograph. One time a Movie was to be shown in the Roberts School at night. This was very unusual. So Earl, and Uncle and myself walked the two and a half miles to the school to see the hand cranked machine. It made conversation for many days.

One of our great pleasures was in fighting Bumble bees. We knew of every nest, and when visiting boy

friends came we took them to fight with us. Paddles were made from shingles and the bees stirred up. We tried to swat them first but did not always succeed. Some times they swatted first. We knew that some one would be stung but naturally presumed it would be the other fellow. We knew where the Hornet nests were but gave them a wide berth.

There were two orphaned lambs. Uncle Sam gave them to us. They were our pride and joy. One we named Fanny and the other Billy. We were not long in teaching Billy to butt. Uncle Sam, who weighed somewhere around one hundred and eighty pounds and was raw boned, was not informed of Billy's ability to use his head. So one day Uncle Sam dropped down on all fours, and, shaking his head, said, "Baa." Billy took a look and there was a meeting of heads. Uncle Sam arose with the tears rolling down his face, and rubbing his head, gave vent to his favorite expression of "Ouch! Mighty ouch."

(End of part two. Part three and conclusion in September 8th issue.)

Approved and Blessed of God

Psalm 1:1,2

Mrs. Edna Nicholas

THAT MAN MAY BE BLESSED of God, he must keep God's law. He requires of us a thankful heart and a reception of His benefits—He desires that we be faithful followers of His will.

The blessed man in this Psalm is instructed in the negative—"Thou shalt not." A command put in this form cannot be mistaken. It is uncompromising. Naturally man is affirmative, practical, energetic, therefore, he reasons, who is not against me is for me. It is one of the great laws of activity and when we refuse to do evil we must be doing good: if we refuse the council of the ungodly, we must be actively engaged of God.

Man is instructed as to the way in which to direct his life. "His delight is in the law of God." He never destroys our powers, He does not quench out aspirations, but He does lay His hand on the strength we are misusing. You must use in another way and for another purpose.

"Blessed is the man that **walketh** not in the counsel of the ungodly." So long as a man is moving (walking) he has no fixed place or purpose —He is looking—he is open and ready to receive any truth that might be presented him. He is open for conviction and may be led to accept the truth and acknowledge the need of a better life —a Saviour.

"Nor **standeth** in the way of sinners." The man who is standing in the path of sin is hard to move because he is more firmly set in his position and purpose—he is hard to convict of truth, yet his position is not so firm that he is lost to conviction.

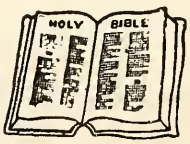
"Nor **sitteth** in the seat of the scornful." This man is decided—he has gone step by step till he has sat down, thus closing practically all avenues by which his soul may be reached, and is not likely to be brought into the saving grace of our Saviour. God blesses the man who does not walk, nor **stand**, nor **sit** in the path of sin; such a man is doing good.

There is nothing abiding in the ungodly—no abiding worth. The man who abides in God is secure, while he who puts himself outside the restraints of divine law by **walking, standing, sitting** in the way of sinners forfeits its protection and all its blessings.

He leads us into light—gives us life and peace. Delight in the law comes from the great flood of light coming into the soul who is actively engaged in the Master's service.

As God unfolds His wonderful plan of salvation and His own glorified Self to us, our joys and delights increase until we are led to meditate in His law both day and night.

Elkhart, Indiana.



MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

I AM PROUD—

—pardonably so, I hope—of the progress that has been made by the Brethren Church in missions—both home and foreign—during this past year. Perhaps the year has passed so rapidly that you have forgotten some of the events; if so, a bit of retrospection may be profitable.

Remember that we sent $30,000 for the purchase and remodeling of a headquarters building and for a home for the Bylers in Buenos Aires; that we purchased a Hammond electric organ for the radio evangelism broadcasts as well as for the worship services in the church there.

Remember that new missionaries (the Shanks) went to Nigeria last October; they are now located at Waka, doing a splendid work. Funds have been sent to Nigeria also to begin the construction of the Mbororo Station.

Remember that Dorman Ronk began erecting a parsonage for the Drushals at Lost Creek, and it is now about completed. He resumed construction of the Classroom building too. More than $25,000 was spent in these two structures and in addition $4,300 on general maintenance.

Remember that the Sarasota Church—now an organized body—has grown in numbers and enthusiasm to the place where they are purchasing a parsonage for their new pastor, who will arrive on the field in September. They also have accumulated a sizeable building fund and, with the Missionary Board's help, hope to begin construction on the church edifice soon. The **Ten Dollar Club** has netted more than $7,000 for this purpose.

Remember the fine work being done in all of our home mission churches and at Krypton, where Margaret Lowery is always doing the work of at least three people. Commendable progress has been made in many such areas.

Remember that we have a number of fine missionary candidates preparing for foreign service. The Rowseys (John, Regina and Susan) hope to leave for Argentina early next spring. The Krafts (Chuck, Meg, Chuckie and Cherie) are planning to accompany the Bischofs as they return to Nigeria, or shortly thereafter. Oh, yes, and there is even a new little Bischof (Barbara) to go along.

These are only a few of the fine achievements of our church in the past year, but they are praiseworthy ones. Of course, we are aware that we must not rest on our past laurels; we must constantly seek greater and greater ones, but we **can** rejoice in what has been accomplished.

In a more personal vein—**I am proud** to work for and to be associated with the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church. (I have become rich* in their employ.) They are the most understanding and cooperative people one could hope to find—and incidentally, they absolutely lean over backwards, trying to do what is right and what Brethren people expect of them, with kindness, patience and tact (and that's no small task).

..**I am proud** of the great blessing I received in working with Reverend Willis Ronk, who was such a faithful and wise president. I learned many wonderful truths from him and profited immeasurably from our association together.

I am proud to work for our general secretary, who has proved himself the essence of patience and understanding, making our relationship the very pleasantest. He is doing a most excellent job for the Brethren Church, and I trust we appreciate his fine efforts.

Naturally, I shall be looking forward to even greater things in our church next year—and I shall be disappointed if we do not accomplish still more. But, for the past year, as I look back, **I am proud—Are you?**—I. L.

*This is the kind of riches one accumulates by doing satisfying work rather than that which is not so satisfying, but for a much larger salary.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

(By Dr. Clarence C. Stoughton, President of Wittenberg College

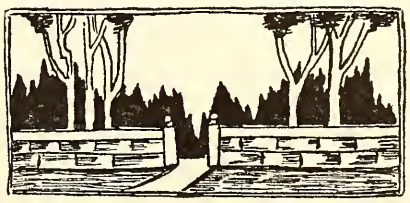
IT IS CHRIST that matters in Stewardship.

The only stewardship that is worthy of the serious attention of the Church is **Christian** stewardship. Its heart is Jesus Christ. It is believing in Him, obeying Him. It is surrendering my life to Him, because I know Him and trust Him and am everlastingly thankful to Him. It is living my faith in everything I do. It is serving Him with my whole life.

Such giving of myself—including my time, my talents, my prayers, my money—will be as natural as the shining of the sun or the fruiting of a good tree. No one need compel it. Because I know that He is my Lord, who redeemed me with His death on the cross, I cannot help being His, living under Him in His Kingdom and serving Him in everlasting righteousness and blessedness. No compulsion, other than my gratitude. I stand before Him. His eyes search me out. Finally my very soul must cry out, "My Lord and my God." Then come His answering words:

"I am the vine. Ye are the branches. Herein is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit. So shall you be my disciples." It is Christ that matters in stewardship.

—from **Doing God's Work,** A Manual on Christian Stewardship.



ASHLAND COLLEGE BUILDING FUND REPORT

CASH GIFTS FROM BRETHREN CHURCHES

FOLLOWING is a recapitulation of contributions made to July 25 by the churches of the Brotherhood to the Ashland College Building Fund. This summary is being made in reply to a number of inquiries regarding the status of both individual and church contributions.

You will note that we are still almost $43,000 short of our $150,000 goal for the church. Many churches still have outstanding pledges or promises to lift additional offerings which will reduce this deficit somewhat, but not sufficiently to completely erase it. Therefore, your prayerful consideration of this report both by yourself and your church is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this, you should have any questions, address them to Brother E. P. Lersch, Director of Public Relations, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.

BUILDING FUND REPORT

June 25, 1956

CASH RECEIPTS

BRETHREN CHURCH

* * *

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT:

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Bethlehem	81	4	$ 32.00
Cumberland	145		
Gatewood	90	1	20.00
Haddix	25	1	100.00
Hagerstown	477	23	5,754.72
Liberty	42		
Linwood	163	6	140.00
Lost Creek	120		
Mathias	151		
Maurertown	255	4	251.00
Mt. Olive	376	4	100.00
Oak Hill	128	3	220.00
Rowdy	13		
St. James	280	7	625.00
St. Luke	71		
Washington	132	2	150.00
	2549	55	$ 7,392.72

* * *

CENTRAL DISTRICT:

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Cerro Gordo	83		$
Lanark	258	36	6,370.00
Milledgeville	245	37	3,047.21
Udell	47	11	520.00
Waterloo	256	93	7,371.00
	889	177	$17,308.21
Central W. M. S.		1	200.00
		178	$17,508.21

* * *

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT:

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Berlin	411	14	$ 4,795.00
Brush Valley	130		
Calvary	33		
Cameron	77	4	100.00
Conemaugh		2	128.00
Highland	68	1	10.00
Johnstown I	122	8	310.00
Johnstown II	135	2	25.00
Johnstown III	355	73	2,347.91
Masontown	178	10	869.65
Meyersdale	151	18	997.00
Mt. Olivet	44	4	180.00
Mt. Pleasant	37		
Pittsburgh	106	10	737.50
Quiet Dell	32		
Raystown	18		
Sergeantsville	38		
Summit Mills	20	1	25.00
Valley	62	14	285.00
Vandergrift	80	1	100.00
Vinco	311	5	269.10
Wayne Heights	80	1	30.64
White Dale	34	1	10.00
	2522	169	$11,219.80
Pa. Sisterhood		1	100.00
Pa. W. M. S.		1	100.00
		171	$11,419.80

* * *

INDIANA DISTRICT:

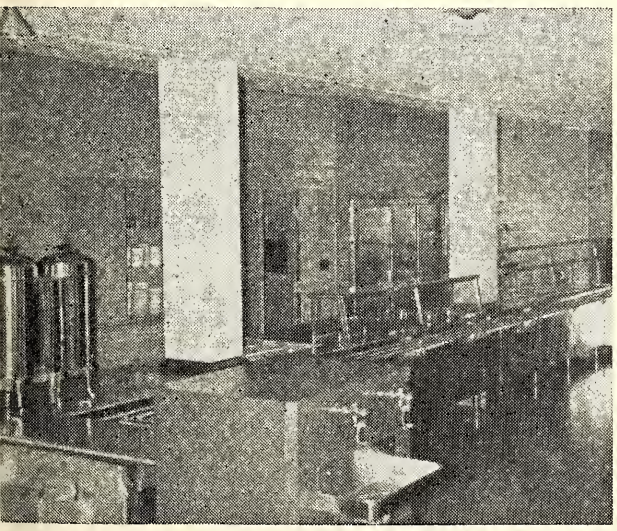
Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Akron	125	2	$ 76.50
Ardmore	238	3	950.00
Brighton	76	2	75.00
Burlington	169	6	714.60
Center Chapel	102		
College Corner	116	2	100.00
Corinth	113	4	280.00
County Line	119	1	150.00
Denver	145		
Dutchtown	61	1	30.00
Elkhart	976	21	2,329.6
Flora	222	5	612.7
Goshen	895	55	4,760.5
Huntington	118	15	1,277.4

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Loree	332	6	1,192.00
Matteson	17		
Mexico	85	4	720.00
Milford	173	3	266.87
Muncie	248	10	1,741.32
Nappanee	569	31	2,961.00
New Paris	88	5	1,526.23
North Liberty	99	3	238.00
N. Manchester	367	19	937.00
Oakville	262	2	50.00
Peru	163	7	371.00
Roann	262		
Roanoke	99	3	40.00
South Bend	672	12	1,102.50
Teegarden	131		
Tiosa	96	9	352.00
Warsaw	329	31	1,537.45
	7,467	262	$24,391.91
Indiana W. M. S.		1	802.77
		263	$25,194.68

* * *

OHIO DISTRICT:

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Akron	177		$
Ashland	422	140	10,445.66
Bryan	375	14	898.50
Canton	166	19	1,839.70
Dayton	450	60	9,591.25
Fair Haven	72	4	260.00
Fairview	15	5	52.00
Fremont	52		
Glenford	38		
Gratis	185	4	803.65
Gretna	56	4	1,325.25
Louisville	287	26	3,461.50
Mansfield	150		
Mt. Zion	25		
Newark	25	2	80.00
New Lebanon	685	19	2,324.64
N. Georgetown	80	10	520.00
Pleasant Hill	269	6	525.00
Smithville	254	29	8,793.50
W. Alexandria	136	3	175.00
Williamstown	110		
	4,031	345	$41,095.65



Cafeteria Serving Counter
New Jacobs Hall
Ashland College

* * *

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT:

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Lathrop	122		$
Manteca	217	1	50.00
Stockton	81	3	36.00
	420	4	$ 86.00
Tucson (No Dist.)	136	2	$ 25.00

* * *

MID-WEST DISTRICT:

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Carleton	93		$
Cheyenne	90		
Falls City	123	19	619.50
Fort Scott	85		
McLouth	20		
Morrill	48	4	95.00
Portis		3	60.00
Mulvane	104	1	11.00
	563	27	$ 785.50

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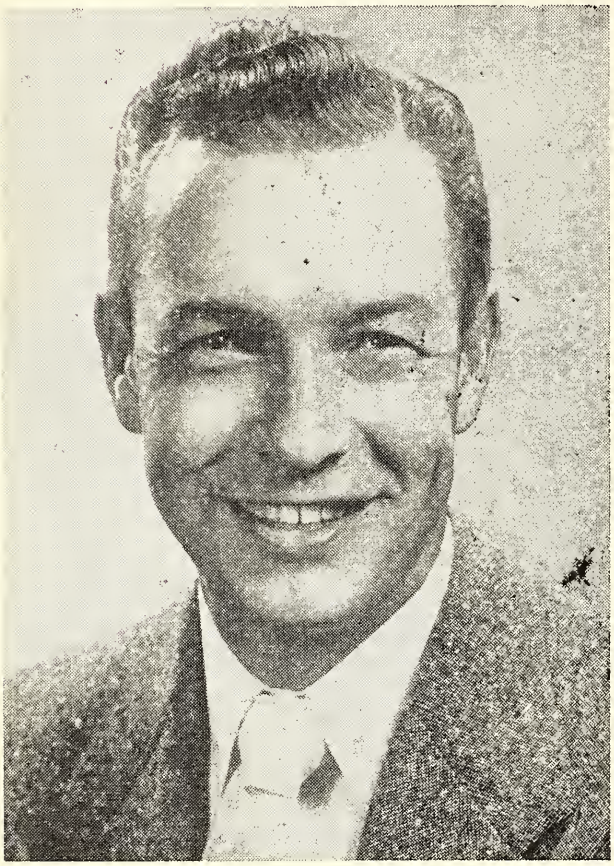
SUMMARY ALL DISTRICTS:

Church	Membership	Gifts	Total
Ohio	4,031	345	$41,095.65
Indiana	7,467	263	25,194.68
Central	889	178	17,508.21
Pennsylvania	2,522	171	11,419.80
Southeast	2,549	55	7,392.72
Mid-west	563	27	785.50
California	420	4	86.00
Tucson	136	2	25.00
	18,577	1,045	$103,507.56

* * *

National W. M. S.	1,500.00
National Laymen	1,000.00
Dedication Off., etc.	1,729.33
	$107,736.89

NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
presents
REV. CLATE A. RISLEY
as Conference speaker and Workshop leader



THE NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Association has announced that the speaker for their General Conference Session, Wednesday evening, August 15th, at 7:25 is Rev. Clate A. Risley, of Chicago. Rev. Risley, who will also conduct the Wednesday and Thursday morning and afternoon Sunday School workshops during General Conference, is the General Secretary of the National Sunday School Association, Chicago, Illinois.

For nine years Mr. Risley was the energetic pastor of Hillyard Baptist Church of Spokane. As a result of his labors the Sunday School grew from one of the smallest in the region to one of the largest in the Pacific Northwest. His church and Sunday School was winner of second prize in the "A" division of Christian Life's nationwide attendance contest in 1949. The church Mr. Risley served is now completing a new $175,000 Educational Building to house its growing Sunday School.

While in Spokane Mr. Risley was president of the Inland Empire Association of Evangelicals for two terms and chairman of the Sunday School conventions committee two different years. Under his leadership the Spokane School of the Bible, an evening school for training Christian leaders, and the Northwest Christian High School had their beginning. Mr. Risley served as an instructor in each of these schools. He also organized the Sunday School Superintendent's Fellowship.

Regarding Sunday School Mr. Risley says, "It is the business of the Sunday School to help people get in touch with God and to grow into happy useful Christian personalities. It then becomes the business of a national organization interested in Sunday Schools to so aid the leaders that they in turn can bring people to know God and to train them to serve Him."

News From Our Churches

A YEAR AT NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

It has been a little over a year since the writer left Ashland to assume the pastorate of the North Manchester Brethren Church, and it has been a year filled with activity, challenge, and rewards. During the year we have seen a number of encouraging accomplishments in the work here—thanks to the leading and the working of the Holy Spirit; and we are trusting that these accomplishments might lead to further growth and fruitfulness in this corner of His vineyard.

Believing that the church should be the very center of a congregation's life, rather than "just another organization," we have been attempting to present a church program that will keep everybody busy in the work of the Master. Besides the regular Sunday School and Morning Worship Service our program has included regular evening services, a Mid-Week Prayer and Bible Study tour, a Children's Bible Hour, monthly Fellowship Hours following the evening service, pulpit exchange services with some of the surrounding Brethren pastors, lay visitation campaigns, and several other activities. The attendance at the various services during the yast year have been very encouraging. From June 1st to May 31st the average Sunday School attendance was 224—an increase of 1 over the highest average in the past ten years. Another encouraging fact concerning the Sunday School attendance is that this average is based upon a fairly steady weekly attendance. In 1953-54, for instance, there were twenty-one Sundays when the attendance was below two hundred; in 1954-55 there were sixteen Sundays when the attendance fell below this figure, while in 1955-56 there were eight Sundays when the attendance was below two hundred, and two of these were 199. The average morning

orship attendance for this year was 173; Evening ser-ces averaged 78; and Mid-Week services averaged 34.

Youth work has also been one of our emphases this ear. Junior sermons; two Brethren Youth Crusader or-anizations; youth work meetings; socials for the children nd young people; youth participation in the regular orship services of the church; the Children's Bible our; twenty-five young people attending Camp Shipshe-ana, are some of the opportunities which the young peo-le have had of becoming a real part of the church. We ope to organize a Boys' Brotherhood this Fall.

Two other areas which we have emphasized during this ear are stewardship and denominational interests and nphasis. We have been very much encouraged by the esponse of the people to both of these presentations.

As might be expected, all of these accomplishments ave been crowned by the most encouraging and most nportant growth of all—the apparent growth in the spir-ual lives of many of the Brethren. When people begin inking seriously in terms of "being born again," or of giving their lives to Christ," rather than in terms of joining the church"; and when men and women recog-ize their responsibility for the unsaved and go out and peak to them concerning Jesus Christ; and when folks ttend prayer meetings and speak some of the prayers hich we have heard in recent months; and when folks ell us that they never knew before that being a Chris-an could make such a difference in their lives— when hese things begin to take place in a church, as they ave in North Manchester in recent months—then there no limit as to what the Lord can accomplish in a com-unity, through His church.

Plans are now under way for a large educational an-ext to our present church plant. By the time this report read we hope to have the excavating started and pos-bly finished. With the completion of this much-needed uilding we will be in a position to begin a more depart-entalized Sunday School, and will be in a position to ccommodate many more children than we can now effec-vely work with.

Brethren, we thank the Lord for His guidance and lead-rship in this work. We thank every one of you who have emembered us in prayer—and we ask your continued rayers in behalf of this challenging and promising field hich is "white unto the harvest."

Henry Bates, Pastor.

BRUSH VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Brush Valley Brethren Church was the scene of uch activity from June 11 to June 24. The Daily Vaca-on Bible School opened Monday morning, June 11, with 5 persons in attendance. The theme of our school this ear was "Our Living Bible." We learned several new horuses and took an active part in the making of plaques. ird houses, baskets and covering Bibles. A planned birth-ay party and picnic were part of our program. The Of-ering of $14.50 which was lifted the first week went to he mission work in Nigeria, Africa. The offering of the econd week, amounting to $19.56, was given to our new Parsonage Fund. Commencement was held Friday evening, June 22.

Revival services also started on June 11, with Rev. Clarence Fairbanks as our Evangelist. We also enlisted his aid as a teacher in the Bible School. These were two weeks of wonderful fellowship and spiritual blessings for all. Three persons came forward for their first time con-fession of Jesus Christ, and ten persons rededicated their lives to Christ. The meetings closed on Sunday evening June 24.

Camp Juniata opened on June 24 with eleven of our young people attending. The past month has been a time of spiritual refreshment for many here at the Brush Val-ley Brethren Church. God has blessed in many ways.

At the present, there is nearly $7,000.00 in pledges, and nearly 1/10 in actual cash, for the new Parsonage Fund.

We at Adrian, Penna., wish that the whole brotherhood would remember the work here in your prayers, that God may bless and help us to progress.

David L. Rambsel, Pastor.

COOPERATIVE BRETHREN CHURCH OF TERRA ALTA

Revival services were held in September with Rev. Ed-win Boardman of Ashland College as the evangelist.

In the September council meeting two new deacons were elected and licensed: Arnold Whitehair and Dale Slaubaugh.

Our church took part in the World Day of Prayer which was held at the E. U. B. Church.

At our Council meeting Sister Galen Fike showed the picture "Plainview's Awakening."

After the death of our pastor, Elder Emra Fike, ser-vices were held by guest speakers each Sunday for sev-eral weeks.

Rev. Duane Sholly of Ashland College Seminary is serving as pastor during the summer months.

Rev. Sholly will hold a week's revival service the first of August.

Mrs. Arnold Whitehair.

MANTECA, CALIFORNIA

Since our last quarterly report to **The Evangelist** a Junior Sisterhood of Mary and Martha, and a Junior Boys' Brotherhood have been organized in the Manteca Church. Each has an average attendance of twelve. A new redwood fence enhances the parsonage property. The parson has been learning the irrigation technique for his small garden.

In the month of July, 12 were baptized, confirmed and received into the membership of the church. Two of our young people, Miss Karen Larsen and Robert Parr, are members of an instrumental quartet in Youth for Christ called "The Keynotes." They won first place in a musical contest at Winona Lake, Indiana, in the Youth for Christ national and international contest which was held in July. Manteca's first Daily Vacation Bible School was held in

(Continued on Page 13)

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

PRAY ON

Pray on, earth's evils will not cease
Till they are conquered by God's own.
Pray on, until He shall release
Victorious power from His throne.
Pray on, without Him we are weak,
We are the channels for His power,
We kneel His gracious strength to seek,
We rise renewed from hour to hour.

—Sadie Mathers Miller.

WITHIN WHAT IS RIGHT, nothing is too great to obtain by prayer (John 16:24). This accounts for the long day of Joshua (Josh. 10:13), and the shadow on the sun dial going backward ten degrees at Hezekiah's request (Isaiah 38:8). Bible examples show no limit to the power of God released by the prayer of faith. Thus in one stroke the angel of the Lord removed the menacing Assyrian host from the walls of Jerusalem (Isaiah 37:36). Thus the heaven gave drought and then rain according as Elijah prayed (1 Kings 17:1; 18:42-45; James 5:17, 18).

In The Acts it is recorded that the saints prayed, and iron doors unlocked, opened, and closed spontaneously that Peter might be freed (Acts 12:1-10). Peter prayed and the dead came to life (Acts 9:36-43). When the early Christians prayed for signs and wonders, which are miracles, God answered them specifically (Acts 4:23-33; 5:1-20).

The reason given for unanswered prayer in the instance mentioned in Matthew 17:19-21 is "your unbelief." Earnest, continual, unceasing prayer has limitless power (Matt. 17:20). Miraculous answers to prayer are promised to all who are praying within the will of God (Mark 11:22-24). If John 3:16 holds for this age, Mark 11:23, 24 also obtains for this age. Signs shall follow, not all who are saved, but those who have faith for the promised signs (Mark 11:22-24; 16:17, 18; Matt. 17:20). Most unusual signs appeared only when faith was given for such signs, which were the credentials of a few where evidence was needed that they had the stamp of God's approval. The Bible with its approval or disapproval of men was not in common knowledge in the earlier day.

Yet we are encouraged to ask for the seemingly impossible in this our day (John 14:13, 14). We are to ask in His name (John 16:23, 24) that we may receive, and that our joy may be full. Let us not doubt the possibility in answer to the prayer of faith, for God can give beyond our imagination to ask (Eph. 3:20). We are commanded to ask and receive (Matt. 7:7, 8). Continuance in asking may be expected (James 4:2). As long as we sense the need we should continue to ask (Jer. 33:3). Read again James 5:13-18.

"When things look bad, and you lose all hope,
When it seems you've reached the end of your rope—
Try the 'knee drill.'

"When things go wrong and you get in a rut,
Don't 'give up the ship,' or sink, friend, but
Try the 'knee drill.'

"If the way seems weary, the pathway rough,
If troubles encumber, make going 'tough,'
Try the 'knee drill.'

"When burdened with care, and heart's filled with doub
Rest assured always that there's a way out—
Try the 'knee drill.'

"Never lose faith, for victory is won
Only by praying till battles are done—
Try the 'knee drill.'

"The devil will tempt us, but one thing we know,
God's grace will follow wherever we go—
Try the 'knee drill.' "

—John Caldwell Craig.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for August 19, 1956

THE GROUNDS OF CHRISTIAN ASSURANCE

Lesson: I John 3:19—4:6

FANNY CROSBY, that wonderful Saint of God, autho of countless hymns and poems, though physicall blind, had spiritual insight which we could well env One of her most famous hymns is this:

"Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchased of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood."

Christian Assurance! How wonderful that God gives t His Children surety and confidence of heart and min Especially is the truth of **Assurance** emphasized in th Epistle of John. The phrase "we know" is used by Joh at least 17 times, and the word "know," or its equiva lent, is found more than 38 times. Thus, John wrote t instill within the Believer **confidence** and **assurance** co cerning the Christian Faith.

What is the basis for Christian Assurance? John woul say that Christianity is evidenced by the manifestatio of **love**, of **righteousness**, and of **obedience.**

"And hereby we know that we are of the truth, an shall assure our hearts before Him" (3:19). What do John mean when he says "hereby?" He refers us bac to verses 11-18, wherein he sets forth the truth that Li in Christ will result in love for our brethren. "We kno that we have passed from death unto life, because w love the brethren" (vs. 14).

John, therefore, would say this: the manifestation of nuine, divine love toward our fellowmen will assure our arts that "we are of the truth." Christian Friend, if u long to have more assurance concerning your Chris- n Faith, then demonstrate love toward your brothers d sisters. You will find that within your soul the fire Divine passion and love will begin to burn!

The leading Theologians of our day have a way of mak- g Christianity so abstract that it is meaningless to the dinary man of the street. John would make it prac- al. He would say it is not enough simply to say you ve your brethren if you are not willing to help him in s hour of need. "My little children, let us not love in ord, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

When we have assurance, God is pleased to hear our tition when we pray, for "whatsoever we ask, we re- ive of Him." Why? "Because we keep His command- ents, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight" s. 22).

Notice the two verbs of action in the above verse, eep," and "do." Both are in the present tense, denot- g continuous action, or habitual practice. A **continual e of obedience, the constant keeping of God's Word, d the repeated performance of God's good pleasure is cessary for that close relationship with God which ings answers to prayer, and assurance to the heart!**

Wedding Announcement

YUNKER-WALTON. A beautiful wedding ceremony as solemnized in the Brethren Church in Flora, Indi- a, on June 3rd, when Miss Bernita Jo Yunker of Flora, d Mr. Ronald Elwood Walton of Elkhart, Indiana, were ited in holy wedlock by Rev. Ewing Walters, a friend the family. The double ring ceremony was used. The urch was beautifully decorated with candles and palms.

C. A. Stewart.

* * *

DOUGLASS-CLEGG. June 8th was the date of a autiful wedding in the Brethren Church in Flora, In- ana, when Miss Anita Douglass of Flora, and Lieut. avid Clegg of Webster Grove, Missouri, exchanged wed- ng vows at the altar banked with flowers and candles. e double ring ceremony was used by the undersigned. e bride is a member of the Church.

C. A. Stewart.

* * *

SHOFF-McCRACKEN—PUGH-SHOFF. A double wed- ng took place in the Brethren Church in Flora, Indiana, June 17th when Miss Connie Shoff of Flora, became e bride of Lieut. Jerry McCracken of Bringhurst, In- ana; and Miss Phyllis Pugh became the bride of Mr. rry Shoff of Flora. The double ring ceremony was used fore the altar banked with flowers and candles. Jerry d Connie Shoff are twin brother and sister. They are embers of the church in Flora. The ceremony was sol- nized by the undersigned.

C. A. Stewart.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

(Continued from Page 11)

July with an average attendance of 87. We had a fine corps of local workers in the school.

Our people were delighted with the services of Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Sparks on June 3rd. They are missionaries for the Orient Crusaders. Mrs. Sparks, the former Leila Elliott, grew up in the Manteca Church. On July 8 we were favored with a sermon from Robert Huse. And on July 22 Rev. Thomas Shannon, pastor of our Roann, Indiana, Church, gave the morning message. Our people are much encouraged by the increase of attendance at our quarterly communion services. The Manteca Church will be represented in every auxiliary of the General Conference this year.

C. Y. Gilmer, Pastor.

CAMP BLACKHAWK

Central District

SEVENTY-THREE CAMPERS and fourteen staff members enjoyed a full week of summer camping at the Spring Valley Bible Camp near Muscatine, Iowa from July 2-8. The weather, food, and spirit of cooperation between campers and the staff unfolded to make a very successful summer camp.

We were very pleased to have our new Brethren Youth Director and his talented wife with us, Jean and Phil Lersch. Both personalities blended wonderfully into the organization and camp schedule. It is certain that they contributed much to the spiritual life of the campers. We were glad for the opportunity to introduce them to the young people of our district and have them work with some of the young people of our district.

Also, we were glad that Charles "Chuck" Huff could be with us as a counsellor. We are certain that through his influence there will be some who will later attend Ashland College and Seminary. Chuck also served as the Assistant Athletic Director and was well respected for his patience and guidance on the athletic field.

The highlight of the camp was the Galilean service along the lake-front. This was held on Decision Night. While candles were floated on the lake a minister's quartet composed of Chuck Huff, Phil Lersch, A. T. Ronk, and H. F. Berkshire sang. Rev. Ronk then spoke of our Master's experiences and decisions that were made along the waterfront. An invitation was extended by the writer as Nancy Tallman of Lanark played hymns on the flute. It was a beautiful scene when forty-seven campers stepped forward to re-dedicate themselves to Christ and his work. But a more beautiful and impressive scene was witnessed when nineteen campers pledged themselves to full time work as Life Recruits.

Those of us who have worked in summer camps are more than ever aware of the great opportunity our church is presented when a dynamic camp program is promoted. Our summer camps can be a very real challenge to the young people who attend them.

H. Francis Berkshire, Dean.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

AFTER CONFERENCE, THEN WHAT?

THE AMBASSADOR QUARTET is traveling throughout our denomination and singing in forty-four churches this summer. The July 21st issue of the "Brethren Evangelist" told of their schedule before National Conference and here is where they will be the week following.

August 19 (evening) .....Smithville
August 20 .....Berlin
August 21 .....Sergeantsville, N. J.
August 22 .....Mt. Olivet
August 23 .....Washington, D. C.
August 24 .....New Windsor, Md.
August 25 .....St. James
August 26 (morning) .....Hagerstown
August 27 (evening) .....Waynesboro

One week's itinerary is enough for one time. More will follow next week. At the writing of this article, August 1, Marlin, Ray, Chuck and I are just beginning three days of solid practice and preparation for our visits with you. Next week we'll give you some notes of the first few days of our tour with the Pennsylvania Brethren. Even if the Ambassadors aren't able to come to your church, but are in the area within driving distance, we certainly would be happy to have you come and see us. Come twice—we won't mind.

WHAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE?

In Mansfield, Ohio, two evenings ago I accidently met a fellow who had been with Rolf Stolpner in Germany the first part of this summer. He had just flown home the week before. I immediately asked him if Rolf was being received well by the German people as he is arranging our 1957 quartet itinerary over there. This fellow, who is not a member of the Brethren Church, was most encouraging in his remarks. He related that these Europeans are very eager to have us come and were receiving Rolf's presentation of our program enthusiastically.

In Rolf's last letter he listed the following contacts and said, "The Y. M. C. A. in Heilbronn will arrange at least two meetings for us in the months of June in 1957. The Leiter of the Christopherusschulle in Berchestesgaden responded very sincerely, and wants us not only to sing in the international high school there, but also in the community hall of Berchtesgaden as well as in the big American Hotel . . . As far as room and board is concerned, there is no problem in Berchtesgaden. We are invited to eat there and places to sleep will also be provided . . . Since yesterday I am in Linz, Austria. I have contacted three pastors here, one from the Methodist church, one from the Lutheran in town and the Reformed church pastor. In all three cases, we are not only invited to their churches for a program, but there will be invitations for meals and places to sleep. In other words I guarantee tha we shall have no meal expenses nor room expense during our three day stay at Linz . . . " And so it goe

Rolf will be back to join the Ambassadors on Satu day night of Conference week for the Brethren Yout program. Come then and hear the latest word on th moving and advancing program.

PARK STREET IS NOT PARKING!

The Brethren Youth Crusaders of the Park Stre Brethren Church in Ashland are not parked to sit by ar watch Brethren Youth move. They're moving with us. I fact, they moved right in to the National B. Y. office c two occasions and helped to assemble program booklet address letters, fold and stuff publicity and stamp e velopes. I want to thank Gwen Owens, Carol Fairbank Barbara and Mary Kay Kimmel, Janet Zimmerman, Bra ley Weidenhamer, Carol Johnson, Esther Fishpaw, Ar Lindower, Judy Lersch and any others whose names ma have slipped away at this moment. Their work saved u many hours and was much appreciated.

Have you Crusaders thought of helping your pasto out there in your own local church? Every pastor h mailing to be done from time to time and he should l able to use his time for more valuable things. Why dor you offer to help from time to time? Pastor, perhaps y are the one to initiate the idea. Ask your young peop for assistance. They want to serve but they just dor always know where to begin. Our church in Ashland h taken a step some of you others should follow. If y are already doing something like this, write and tell n about it.

THE THINK CORNER

"When you have spoken the word, it reigns over yo When it is unspoken, you reign over it."—Arabic Prove

FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL

BRING YOUR FOOD FOR THE FAITHFUL T GENERAL CONFERENCE. A PLACE WILL BE PR VIDED FOR YOUR CANNED GOODS AND NO PERISHABLE FOODS. CASH GIFTS ALSO RECEIVE

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

were baptized in the Stockton Church on July 22. Ho ard Crom is district delegate to General Conference. T District W. M. S. will meet in the Stockton Church September 4 at 12:00 noon with Rev. Robert Bisch Brethren missionary to Nigeria as speaker. The Bere Institute for August will be held in the Manteca Chu on August 31, at 8:00 P. M. This is the time for t election of officers for the ensuing Berean year. The D trict Laymen's quarterly meeting will be held in Stockton Church on Friday evening, September Howard Crom will give a report at this meeting of National Laymen's sessions at General Conference.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

MAGINE YOURSELF traveling down a Super highway, and you come up to two service stations on a corner. ne station had a sign out front that said, "A welcome all" while the other station had a sign which read, Service is our Watchword." Which station would you say ot the most business?

As we complete our W. M. S. year, we count our goals see if we will be a banner society or not. In so doing, e are made to realize how much service we have ren-ered to others. I for one am glad for the goals that are anned, so that we might include others. So many of s can only do a service in a small way. Yet God richly esses all who serve Him in love. Galatians 5:13 says, With love serve one another." Here we find love and ser-ce hand in hand. How many missionary stories have ou heard of great love and service rendered?

The story is told of a Japanese farmer, who lived on hillside overlooking a village by the sea. He was very appy, for he had had a good rice crop, and there by his ouse stood five great stacks which told him he would ave enough food for many months. Far below the vil-gers were celebrating a joyous festival. All of a sudden e earth began to rumble and shake. A very strange ing happened, the sea began to go back and back and ack, much further back than a low tide. The startled llagers became confused. The farmer on the hillside re-ized that something must be done quickly. They were o far away to hear him call; he wouldn't have time to o down to warn them. He realized though that he must arn them. So he set fire to his rice stacks. Great columns f smoke rose up and quickly the shouts of "Fire! Fire!" ould be heard, as the villagers rushed up the hill to help e farmer put out the fire. "Why did you do this dread-ul thing?" they asked. The old farmer pointed to the sea, here a great wall of water came thundering on, it swept ght over the village and spent itself out at the foot of e hill on which they stood. Of course, he need not have one it. He was safe and secure. Of course he need not ave done it, yet he could not let his neighbors, the vil-agers drown. He took their danger as his own and gave ll he had to save them. How like our Wonderful Lord nd Saviour, giving His all to save us from sin.

Are we also willing to give our love and service to hers? If necessary, our all, even as Christ did?

Mrs. H. D. Hunter,
North Manchester, Indiana.

PUBLICATION DAY OFFERING

April 4, 1956 to July 11, 1956

Previous Total	$5,119.52
Manteca Brethren, Manteca, Calif.	25.00
Hagerstown Brethren, Hagerstown, Md.	119.20
Elkhart Brethren, Elkhart, Ind.	77.65
Stuart E. Good, Bethlehem Brethren	2.00
Mr. & Mrs. T. D. Swartz, Bethlehem Brethren	15.00
Earl Oyler, Burlington, Indiana	2.00
Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Albert, Johnstown, Pa.	10.00
Mr. Robert Benshoff, Johnstown, Pa.	2.00
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Benshoff, Johnstown, Pa.	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Furry, Johnstown, Pa.	5.00
Mrs. John Fitt, Johnstown, Pa.	2.00
Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Furrier, Johnstown, Pa.	5.00
Miss Gertrude Lake, Johnstown, Pa.	5.00
Miss Marion Treat, Johnstown, Pa.	5.00
Friends of First Brethren Church, Johnstown, Pa.	4.90
Dutchtown Brethren, Dutchtown, Ind.	7.00
Muncie Brethren, Muncie, Ind.	20.00
North Manchester Brethren, N. Manchester, Ind.	90.17
Mr. & Mrs. M. B. Ridenour, Hagerstown, Md.	100.00
Waterloo Brethren, Waterloo, Iowa	41.00
Lanark Brethren, Lanark, Ill.	5.00
Cerro Gordo Brethren, Cerro Gordo, Ill.	4.00
Oakville Brethren, Oakville, Ind.	57.75
Goshen Brethren, Goshen, Indiana	97.92
Elkhart Brethren, Elkhart, Ind.	54.55
Pleasant Hill Brethren, Pleasant Hill, O.	14.74
Louisville Brethren, Louisville, Ohio	36.00
Total to July 11, 1956	$5,937.40

COMING EVENTS

SOUTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT LAYMEN

Please Note:

The Southern Indiana Laymen will hold their regular quarterly meeting at the Oakville Brethren Church, Monday evening, August 27th. We especially urge a good attendance from all churches as this will be the first meeting with Oakville for some time.

The Hon. Ralph Harvey, Congressman from Indiana, will be the speaker. Supper served 6:30 to 7:30 P. M. prevailing time, with regular meeting beginning at 7:30.

Send reservations to Rev. Arthur Tinkel, Oakville, Indiana. Note change of date account of General Conference.

C. E. Keplinger,
John M. Holsinger.

Sixty-Eighth General Conference of the Brethren Church, Ashland, Ohio

August 13 - 19, 1956

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When you attend General Conference
Be sure to visit
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Pictures:

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Sunday School Supplies:

Attendance cards, color books, activity books, Picture puzzles, Bookmarks, Pencils, etc.

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Ashland, Ohio

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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GENERAL CONFERENCE NEWS

In place of our regular column of "Interesting Items," we are this week giving you a few of the high-lights of the opening of the 68th General Conference of the Brethren Church, which convened at Ashland, Ohio, the evening of August 13th.

Following a good bit of rainy weather on Monday, nice weather greeted the delegates at the Monday evening service. Following a rousing song service, Moderator L. V. King led the Conference in the devotions of the evening. Moderator King presented Vice-Moderator Smith F. Rose, who then challenged the many delegates and friends with a key-note message on the subject: "The Divine Partnership."

Tuesday morning's tabulation of delegates showed a total of 198 lay, cooperative and district delegates, and 82 ministerial delegates, or a total of 280, as against 267 a year ago. Elsewhere in this issue we have noted the results of the Tuesday morning's election of Officers and Executive Committee.

Brethren Youth also reports a booming registration at its Conference. Rooming facilities, in spite of the additional rooms made available by the use of Jacobs Hall, are at a premium. All in all, the Conference is starting off with a good attendance, good weather, and a good spirit. We hope to make a fuller report of Conference happenings next week. W. S. B.

AVAILABLE FOR CALL

Since I am closing my pastorate with the Cerro Gordo Brethren, I will be available for call as of the 1st of October. Any Church interested please write Box 581, Cerro Gordo, Illinois.

Rev. Kenneth C. Mock.

PASTOR DESIRED

We desire the service of a minister who would be interested in the Pittsburgh pastorate at an early date. Contact:

First Brethren Church,
Clyde A. Garland, Secretary,
1004 North Homewood Ave.,
Pittsburgh 8, Pennsylvania.

COMING EVENTS

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Send reservations to Rev. Arthur Tinkel, Oakville, Indiana. Note change of date account of General Conference.

C. E. Keplinger,
John M. Holsinger.

PASTOR WANTED

The Brethren Church at Cerro Gordo, Illinois desire to contact any one interested in the pastorate of this Church. Our pastor, Rev. Kenneth Mock, has resigned and will leave October 1, 1956. Write to:

Mrs. Lenora G. Snoke,
Oakley, Illinois.

PASTOR NEEDED

The Pleasant View Brethren Church of Vandergrift, Penna., will be in need of a pastor on October 1, 1956 as our pastor, Rev. Paul M. Naff, will be leaving the pastorate at that time. Any Brethren minister who is interested please write to:

Thelma M. Fish, Secretary
Box 62
Vandergrift, Pennsylvania.

The Editor's Pulpit

The 1956 Moderator's Address

BEGINNING on the next page of this **Evangelist** is the text of the Moderator's Address as delivered to the 68th General Conference of the Brethren Church. By Moderator L. V. King, this message was presented to the assembled delegates in Memorial Chapel on Tuesday morning, August 14th.

We urge its reading and careful study by all Brethren. Brother King has given much thought, study and prayer to the matter of the problems of the local church and its relationship to the denomination. He has sought opinions and views from others of the Brethren. He has given, what we feel are, good solid and helpful suggestions which can be put into operation in the local church and in the Denomination.

In the course of his message, Brother King raises several questions. One is, "Why isn't the Brethren Church growing more in numbers, power and influence in the world?" He also notes the woeful and tragic loss of members through roll revision and otherwise, then raising the question, "How much do we spend to get the inactive to become active?"

Raising the question also, "If we lack in numbers, do we also lack in power?" he then notes that "Once the Prayer Meeting was the dynamo of the Church." He then asks, "When did it (the Prayer Meeting) lose that power in the Brethren Church?"

Brother King concludes with the advocation of Evangelism and Missions, coupled with the encouragement to build the local church for a stronger denomination—all through the Holy Spirit—building for the Lord.

Our thanks to Brother King for this thoughtful, challenging message in the year of "Building With God." Fostering and urging a deeper development of love for the Brethren, for one another and for the work of the Church, our Moderator has noted that a better and more harmonious spirit on the local level will most surely be reflected in a stronger denominational and world-wide program of the church. To this, we say "Amen," and would like here to quote the 1956 Conference text as found in Psalm 127:1: "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it."

It would be wonderful if every delegate and attendant at Conference, and every Brethren at home would re-evaluate his or her life and attitude toward the church and its work in the light of the matters presented in Brother King's message—seeking then to submerge and bury personal feelings and attitudes in the greater purpose of Christian service and love. For harmonious progress in the church, it is the only thing to do. Thus yielded in spirit and purpose, the greater witness of the Gospel to the world can be accomplished, for then we shall be building in the Lord. Much has been accomplished, for which we are glad. By taking heed to what we have heard and read in this message, much more can yet be accomplished in His name. W. S. B.

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1956-57

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Moderator's Address 1956 General Conference of The Brethren Church

REV. L. V. KING

BUILDING THE LOCAL CHURCH

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen."

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

* * *

IN THE NAME of this God and in the Name of His Son, our Lord and Saviour we come into this 68th General Conference of the Brethren Church. May the Holy Spirit be honored as we endeavor to serve Him during this week. May His presence be so felt that we shall all be inspired to return to our homes and Churches better able to serve our loving Christ.

God has been good to us during the year. Many of us have seen again a demonstration of the Holy Spirit's presence and power to make and reshape lives for His glorious service.

Kind of world we live in

Have you ever asked yourself the question: "What kind of a world are we living in today?" Someone has well said that this is a world of horsepower without spiritual control. A world of speed but without spiritual control. Therefore we need to ask: "Where are we going; how are we going there; where will we be when we get there?" The Brethren Church needs to ask that question. We do not need less power nor speed but we do need spiritual control.

This is a world of knowledge but without wisdom. We have knowledge to invent but we do not have wisdom to use it to good purposes. This is a world of religion but without Christian experience. The purpose of our faith ought to be to get God and man together. We say that more people are going to Church today than ever before. But why are they going?

We are erecting more and costlier and better equipped buildings. But what are we building for today?

This is indeed a world of opportunity but a world without spiritual leadership. Thank God, we have a few here and there pointing men to God. Whatever we may say about Billy Graham he at least is making men more conscious of the purpose of their existence and of God's presence.

Brethren Church in such a world

Now, what about the Church in such an age? What about the Brethren Church, this little group of believers, in such a tremendous world? Study the world when Jesus came. In many ways ready for His coming. But in many ways everything was against the early followers. Yet the Christian Church went on conquering and to conquer.

Can the Church do today in a topsy-turvy world what she did in her beginnings? Can the Brethren Church, though small in numbers, do what the early Church did? The answer to this question depends on our consecration and our love for the task of Christ and the Church. Greatness is not measured by numbers.

Text from New Testament. John 3:16

Let us now turn to several texts which we want to use as a basis of this message. The first is to be found in the Golden Text of the Bible namely John 3:16. Here among many other things we have the Source, God; the motive, Love; the recipients, the world; the Deed, that He gave; the purpose, that whosoever believeth; and the reason, should not perish but have everlasting life. And in the New Testament we have this Redeeming love and grace offered.

Text from Old Testament. Story of Jonah

The same truth is beautifully portrayed to us in the Old Testament in the story of Jonah and the Ninevites. The Book opens with this challenging statement, "And the Word of the Lord came to Jonah." Here we have the source, the Lord; here we have the message, the Word; here we have the man, Jonah; here we have the call, "and the Word of the Lord came;" and here we have the task, "Go to Nineveh and preach the Word."

In this story we have the background of the challenge that must come to every man and to every denomination. Here we have the preparation needed to fulfill the task. Here we have an example of the results that will come when man finally does the work of the Lord.

"For God so loved the world." This world to Jonah was Nineveh. You and I have a world to conquer. It may be a great city. It may be a small village or it may simply be a neighbor. The Brethren Church too has a world to conquer. Are we going to go at God's command or will we flee like Jonah? I am afraid we have fled too often in the past. No wonder God has to send some men and some churches through the trial of judgment before obedience comes.

What about the Brethren Church in such a world? Has God ever given us a call? Is He calling us today to a certain task? Are we answering the call? I would like to answer this question today. And I want to do it by first looking at our strength and then our weakness. I am also trying to convey the feeling of the Committee on the Spiritual State of the Churches as far as I have been able to glean their minds.

The great strength of the Brethren Church is in her message. I have never had any reason to challenge our message. I believe, somehow, God led those first founders of our faith and kept them from many of the errors found in so many other peoples. I believe they were humble saints, so humble that God could speak to them His Word. I believe that God did speak. And I believe that they followed in His steps. It was not until the Brethren departed from these early concepts that division came. And in division chastening.

I. Belief in Brethren Church (Doctrine)

A. A Golden Doctrine

Personally, I believe the whole doctrine of the Brethren Church. I believe the Brethren Church has been kept from going to the extremes that have divided even good people for centuries. I believe we have something to offer to the world that many other people do not have.

1. Her Creed

I believe first of all we have a golden creed. "The Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible,"

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cannot be improved. I trust we shall never adopt another. This to me, is the strength of the Brethren Church. On this we shall never go wrong.

2. Her Baptism

We also have a golden baptism which is not questioned by the greatest authorities. I believe IF we remain true to our convictions on this Doctrine long enough, the world, if Christ tarries, will some day see our point of view. The truth, if kept long enough, will some day win.

3. Her Communion

In the third place we have a golden communion service to offer to the world. A communion, since given by the Great Teacher, that cannot be improved upon by man. A communion that was believed and practised by the early Church. And one, if we keep it sacred, will someday be revealed to thinking, consecrated men.

4. Her Anointing for Healing

In the fourth place we have a golden method to use when men are ill, in the anointing service. Many faith healers quote from James this statement, "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick," and then immediately use their own methods of healing, instead of following the whole account given in James Chapter Five. If they do not want to do what it says they have no right to the claim of the promises. This service guards carefully against any man taking the glory of healing to himself. The healing and glory belongs to Christ. I am not saying God cannot use men to heal in other ways, nor in mass meetings. But I am saying that for ordinary men gifted to be Pastors of Churches this is the golden method to be used when men are sick. We ought to preach it more, and our layity ought to avail themselves of this precious doctrine more than they now do.

5. All other Doctrine Included

What I have said of these four precious doctrines of the Brethren I could say of all our beliefs. We, therefore, have a Golden Gospel, unadulterated and unchanged to present to a world as needy as when Christ first gave these precious truths. I believe firmly in the Doctrine of the Brethren Church. I have never been called into question on these. I have only been called into question because I have not parted from Brethren belief to accept some other extreme fundamental half truths which the Brethren never raised in their early history.

B. Guarding the Faith

NOW, IF the Brethren Church has a message that is more golden than many other peoples, then she needs to propagate that doctrine. For IF the Brethren need abide by the whole Word, others need to do the same. The Golden things of the Word ought to be for every person. Apart from this conviction there is no need for our existence as a denomination.

These truths all Brethren Pastors need to teach diligently. And all true Brethren layity need to practise them as fundamental to their growth. If we have a message to give, then we need to propagate it. Those, therefore, that cannot agree with the tenanents of the faith are on dangerous grounds when they assume the authority to try and change them. They better go into some other faith, than to remain, and then try and rob the Brethren of their heritage.

First Recommendation

On this point I would like to refer to a former Moderator's address and make my first recommendation. At the 1954 Conference, the Moderator Rev. Virgil Meyer said:

"The Brethren Church needs to give some profound thought to what we would do IF there arose a crisis in one of our Churches. What would we do IF one of our Brethren Ministers began to confess his unbelief in the

great truths of God's Word and began to preach his unbelief in one of our Church pulpits?"

I raise again the question, "What would we do?" Suppose some Pastor or Church began to take in folks as members by any other method than Triune Immersion? Suppose some Church decided to leave out feet washing from the communion service? What would we do?

If we have a means of meeting such a situation, then the Brethren need to have it pointed out clearly in some method. If not, then we need to do something about it NOW. Since it is a problem that might arise I would like to recommend to the Ministerial Association that they make this a matter of first importance as soon as possible, preferably, at this Conference. In another year it might be too late. The need for action is even more urgent now than when first suggested by Rev. Meyer.

NOW having declared that the strength of the Brethren is to be found in her doctrine, I raise the question: "Why isn't the Brethren Church growing more in numbers, power and influence in the world? IF we lack in numbers do we also lack in POWER?"

II. Our weakness that needs strengthening, or building.

So if I proceed to point out some of our weaknesses, do not feel that I am doing it in the spirit of criticism. I am doing it that we might not be blind to the real facts. It is only as we see anew our weaknesses that we will do something about them. It is with this thought in mind that I now turn to this phase of this message.

A. A Lack of Enthusiasm

I wonder if the Brethren Church is not too timid to offer our Golden Gospel to a needy world? Here we could profit a great deal when we see something of the enthusiasm of many of the isms of the world. Many of them with only half truths, appear more enthusiastic to propagate their faith than many of the Brethren with the whole truth. If they have much of the false and we have the Truth why are we not growing more rapidly, in comparison with their growth? Why has our membership remained about the same, the last ten or even twenty years? Why have we been so long in training men

for the ministry to enable us to erect more Churches? Why have we played so long at religion in South America? Why have we been so long in starting a work in Africa? If the Brethren Church is distinct in her doctrine and practise why are we becoming so much like other people? May I point out some weaknesses, places where we are too much like other People?

Attending Conferences

I. The first weakness is to be found in our Conference attendance. Our people do not attend Conference as we ought to do. And those who come, come only part time while others spend too much time visiting and gossiping on the Campus when they ought to be attending the Conference sessions. Those who come pick out the highlights. Even Pastors are guilty of this. Usually we have enough people on the grounds to fill this auditorium at all services. This is seen in the attendance at special sessions. NOW, let me give some suggestions.

1st. The local Church ought to send delegates who plan to remain throughout the Conference. How can any person go home and report the activities of Conference who attend only half the sessions? If the Church pays the delegate expenses it ought to be based on the number of days they attend. Churches should instruct their delegates to remain for the week. And upon return the Church ought to ask for a full report of all activities. A delegate is one who represents the Church. Therefore he is obligated to know what is going on and report his full findings to the local Church. Else, only a few benefit from a Conference.

2nd. All delegates should be expected to attend all sessions, especially Ministers. First as an example of their own loyalty. Second, because they too need to gather inspiration. Third, some day they too will be called to speak at one of these sessions when only a few attend. If he prefers a good audience then he needs to keep faith with his fellow Minister brother who too prefers a good crowd.

3rd. All Committee and Board Meetings should not be set at any time there is a regular conference session, be it inspirational or business. Two afternoons a week might be kept open for Committee meetings. One at the beginning of Conference to adopt suggestions to be brought to Conference. Another at the close of Conference so they can plan the time of meetings for the year ahead. The truth is that many Committees never meet and if they do their work is done so hurriedly, their reports are not thought out clearly.

Larger Boards ought to meet before Conference and have most of their work out of the way so that they can sit on Committees, elected at Conference time and attend the regular Conference sessions. Duplication of members on Boards ought to be avoided. We have forgotten the action of Conference some years ago on this problem. If there is no other way Conference might meet a day or two later allowing Monday and Tuesday for such meetings. I recommend that the Executive Committee give this some prayerful consideration.

Growing Numerically

II. The second lack is to be found in our failure to grow numerically. Your Moderator took time, even before Rev. Leatherman made his statements in the 1955 Pennsylvania Conference, in going over the Statistic reports as far back as 1918. The statistics give us some alarming facts.

A great many years ago Dr. Martin Shively said, "Numerically we are not growing. There is a slump in our membership." And that situation has not changed much throughout the years.

The one big cause for failure to grow is due to roll revisions. La

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MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
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ROBERT BISCHOF'S SCHEDULE

following General Conference

WHEN Reverend and Mrs. C. Y. Gilmer return to California after Conference, they will be accompanied by Robert Bischof, who will visit a number of Brethren churches enroute. The following is his schedule:

August 26—Gratis, Ohio
August 28—Carleton, Nebraska
August 29—Cheyenne, Wyoming
August 31—Berean Institute, Manteca Church 8:00 P. M.
September 2—Lathrop Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
September 2—Manteca Church, 11:00 A. M.
September 2—Fellowship dinner, Manteca, 12:30
September 2—Stockton Brethren Church, 7:30 P. M.
September 3—Lathrop Brethren Church, 8:00 P. M.
September 4—District W. M. S. Stockton Church 12 noon
September 4—Manteca Brethren Church, 8:00 P. M.
September 9—Tucson
September 11—Mulvane, Kansas
September 12—Mulvane, Kansas
September 13—Fort Scott, Kansas
September 14—Fort Scott, Kansas (tentative)
September 16—Waterloo, Iowa

Beginning September 27, Bischof will visit the Southeast District churches. Bea and Barbara will not accompany him on these trips; they will remain in Ashland.

THE TIME HAS COME —

EACH YEAR, for some time now, our missionary program has been expanding and developing; and this year we have a program of which we may really be just proud.

Recently we have sent a new missionary couple to Nigeria (the Shanks); after the first of the year, the Bischofs—accompanied by a new little B, will be returning to the field from a year's furlough; two new missionary couples—Rowseys and Krafts—will be leaving for Argentina and Nigeria, early next spring; and other young couples are preparing for these fields.

Our home program is equally characterized by activity and challenging plans. At Sarasota a full-time pastor will begin serving the new church on September 1. Plans are also under way to begin building there in the coming months.

Tremendous progress in construction has been made at Lost Creek this year and should soon present a new look to the Riverside Christian Training School.

A parsonage was purchased this past year for the Newark pastor, and the entire program at Newark is beginning to get on a solid footing.

At Tucson, Arizona, where the five-year-old church already grown to the place that building enlargement became mandatory, this expansion has been accomplished by the church itself, with the Board required to give only its consent to the undertaking.

Many more details might be given on these projects, and other projects might be enumerated. Suffice it to say —our program has enlarged appreciably and is the best it has been yet.

At one time criticism of our missionary program was expressed by some, stating that not enough was being done. Perhaps the criticism was justifiable then, but it would not be now. We are accomplishing great things with what we have, but if we are to continue growing, WE MUST HAVE MORE.

For those who have advocated greater help to Lost Creek, we call attention to the almost $40,000 spent there during the past year—using up our home mission reserves and requiring the borrowing of funds to put the classroom building into usable condition. Now is the time to show our approval of the work being done by GIVING LIBERALLY to its support.

We are unanimous in our approval of the plans to send more new missionaries to Argentina and to Nigeria; we all agree on the wisdom of preparing cadidates to keep the supply of workers flowing. We realize that all this takes outfits, transportation, salaries, medical fees, buildings, cars, and other items too numerous to mention. **And these things cost large sums of money.** Right now we need generous offerings from churches and individuals to support this work.

We have a wonderful, growing program, with unlimited opportunities to serve HIM.

HOW SHALL WE USE THEM?

STRANGE NEW WAYS

(Taken from American Leprosy Missions, Inc.)

"My first wife died when our child was born," said Timawua of Garkida, Nigeria. "When I think of her, I am filled with remorse, for I was often cruel to her. Then I got a new wife. Many times I was unkind to her too. If she passed me when I was eating my food, it made me angry.

"In our prayer group we began talking about making our homes Christian. For the first time, I longed to share my thoughts with Walabuma, my wife, and have prayer with her, but I didn't know how to do it.

"Finally I asked one of the other Christian men to bring his wife to our house so the four of us could sit and talk. It seemed very strange at first. It was so different from our African way. I thank God I have overcome my old prejudices. Now, my wife and I have sweet Christian fellowship together."

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year we showed a loss of 307 members due to roll revisions, of the total loss of 856. The largest gain in any Church was a net increase of 39 at New Lebanon. 52 Churches showed an increase with 32 a decrease, and 20 reporting the same membership. This loss of roll revision took place largely in the Southeastern District where one Church reported a membership of 440 two years ago and last year 120. In other words they took off more members than they retained on the rolls.

The total loss in roll revisions alone since 1944 stands at 6126 or an average of 510 per year. Is it possible that any Church has been so careless with membership rolls to find that suddenly they have so many that do not belong. Or is it that these have been placed on an inactive roll and then reported as loss by roll revision? I recall that some years ago Conference voted that every Church report their entire book membership.

We spend thousands of dollars to get folks into the Church. But how much do we spend to get the inactive to become active? In many cases all we do is to take their names from the roll. I firmly believe that no Church has the right to remove names until that Church has done everything to reclaim them. And tell me, what Church has done this? Sure, remove those who die or join other Churches or request withdrawal. But also, do everything possible to reenlist the inactive. Again, no person's name should be removed without consulting the person. To simply write a letter instead of making a visit is to show a lazy attitude.

I have seen folks active under my ministry who were inactive under the former Pastorate. And I have seen inactive folks under my ministry become active under the Pastor who followed me. What if these names had been removed during the time they were inactive?

Dwindling Attendance at Communion, Evening Service, prayer - meeting and revival.

III. In the third weakness of the Brethren Church, where we are becoming too much like other peoples, I will classify several into one paragraph, even though each demands separate consideration. I refer to **our dwindling attendance at Communion, Evening Service, Prayer Meeting and Revival.** And this is true in Churches where the membership, Sunday School and morning worship services have increased. There was a time when Brethren drove miles with the horse and buggy to attend communion and revival. Once the Prayer Meeting was the dynamo of the Church. When did it lose that power in the Brethren Church? Even many full - time Churches do not feel the need of prayer meetings. And in many places where they do have prayer meeting the attendance does not indicate very much life.

IF we are growing spiritually one would think these services would be on an increase. Are we losing our distinctive Brethren beliefs? If we Brethren do not attend these services how can we hope to impress on others that the Brethren Church is different. Do we not too often have to confess that we are much like other people?

Lack of United Families belonging to same Church.

IV. We have also seen a lack of united families all belonging to the same Church. There was a time when the entire family was Brethren. And they went to Church as families. Today, many Churches do not average two to a family. While in Elkhart it required 550 letters to reach the entire membership of less than a thousand. In Louisville, with a membership of 300 plus, it requires 155 letters to reach the membership. A divided family is not the ideal situation in any Church. This may account in part for the divorce problem.

NOW, may I suggest some helpful ways to meet these problems. We do well to invite outside men in to conduct our Evangelistic campaigns. Why not spend at least a week of this time with definite emphasis on the inactive of the Church. Every active member ought to call upon every inactive member some time before the campaign. Then let the Evangelist and Pastor follow these calls. Every inactive member needs to know that the Church is definitely interested in their spiritual lives. They also need to know that the Church expects some activity from them. Why not reestablish the custom of the Deacon Board calling upon each family before Communion? At least these calls ought to be made on the folks not attending Church. We could do well in spending at least a week's efforts in trying to unite families. Let that be the slogan and let the families know the purpose of the campaign.

B. Lack of real Christian love.

NOW having revealed the fact that we lack enthusiasm to carry out our Golden Doctrine, let me also reveal the fact that back of all this is a lack of real love for Christ and the Church. Therefore, whatever enthusiasm we may have must be controlled by real love. "For God so loved" must also be our motive. Let it be said of us, "for the Brethren Church so loved." Love must be the basis of all we undertake to do for Christ. With this kind of love we can build. Without it our building will be in vain.

On local level. The Church

I. First we lack love for one another on the local level. We have to many up's and down's in our Churches. Too many inactive periods and too many quarrels. We act like kids when it comes to having spats but we act like immature adults when it comes to forgiveness. In the eight Churches I have served as Pastor I have examined the growth in attendance as far back as I could gather the records. In only one, namely Louisville, has there been a steady growth each year. Since 1947 there has been a slight growth each year. I do not have the records further back. True, it was but a slight gain but it was in the right direction. I realize there are local conditions where this cannot always take place but each Church ought to show some growth throughout a period of years. The lack of growth has not been

much because of lack of opportunity but too often due to misunderstandings between Brethren. Notice, I said, "between Brethren."

And the sad part is that too often the Minister is the one over which the difference arises. He who should have been the one to unite his people often becomes the subject of the differences.

Sometimes the Pastor is at fault. Sometimes it is due to disgruntled members who cannot get along with any Pastor. Just about the time a Pastor knows his people and his field and how to solve the problems, someone gets the idea it is time to move. And they keep up their opposition with a spirit of ill will until the Pastor is forced to leave in order to keep the Church together. I do not mean there may come a time when it is much better for a Pastor to resign. He ought to have enough grace and wisdom to know when such a situation arises. He must not consider his own wishes but the best interests of his people and the harmony of the Church. God will guide any Pastor or people who honestly and sincerely seek His leading.

But as long as a Pastor is sound in his teaching, true to Brethren ideals and creed, clean in his living before his people, and the Church is making growth there certainly should be no need of changing Pastors.

Love for the denomination and denominational interests must be foremost on the part of the Pastor and his people. A Pastor who preaches any other doctrine than that which his denomination holds, must expect some opposition. If he does not intend to conform to the doctrines of his denomination nor support wholeheartedly the interests of his Church he ought to have enough judgment to resign. No Pastor can afford to tear apart his Church nor cause division in his denomination. Such a person needs to study Hebrews 13:7.

Lack of love for Denomination

Having covered somewhat briefly our love on the local level let us now pass to a love for the denomination of which we are all a part. Every denomination has certain denominational interests of which the local Church needs be a part.

Education

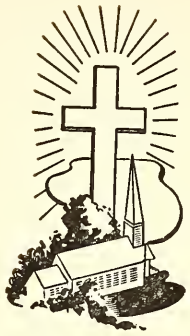
1. The first of these I would mention in our own beloved Church is Ashland College and Seminary. We can indeed be thankful that our College has made great strides in the past years. And this progress has been made in spite of the opposition or lack of enthusiasm of some of our Pastors and people. Some are doing more for other schools with pupils, gifts and enthusiasm than for our own school.

These forget that the Brethren Church cannot be any stronger than the school that trains her Ministers. Thank God, we do have some very fine Ministers not trained in our own College who are doing a fine work. Yet, many of those who have caused trouble in the Church have been graduates of other schools. Ashland College has made mistakes. Ashland College is not perfect. But who turns a Church down because she is not perfect? Ashland College ought to be the school where Brethren Ministers and Brethren Missionaries get their training. Ashland can be just as strong as the students we send to these halls. If other denominations send their children to Ashland while Brethren send their children elsewhere, how can we ever hope to retain Brethren ideals. And so as Dr. J. Allen Miller often said, "We need the best the Church can offer."

Needy

2. In the second place we need greater love and loyalty for the methods the Brethren Church is using to care for her needy. The Brethren's Home at Flora will have to be supported yearly. The home can hardly become self-supporting. The Brethren's Home is in its best condition since the erection of the present building. The present Superintendent and Matron are doing a fine job. They have sufficient help and the needs of the members are being met. However, all this costs extra money and the Board is in need of the best financial help the Churches can give.

The denomination made some progress when she adopted the pension plan. And in time the Minister's Fund will no more be needed. But the next few years will be the hardest years because of those who were too old to enter the Pension plan. For years the Minister's have been asking for some insurance plan. Now, since we have the best that can be offered, they do not seem to be concerned. Every Minister who can ought



to take advantage of this Church plan. Social Security will not be enough. If I had to take my choice I would join the pension plan of the Church.

Printing

3. A growing denomination has its own Publishing Board and plant. Here too progress has been made. And we can all hasten the time when the Board will not need to ask the denomination for special offerings. As soon as every Brethren Church uses all Brethren literature available, orders material from them and sends job work that much sooner can the Publishing Company become more self-supporting. I would be in favor of raising the subscription price of **The Brethren Evangelist**, and the Sunday School Quarterlies sufficiently that if by that method we could do away with the special yearly offering.

But until such a plan can be worked out we need to give our best support. **The Brethren Evangelist** ought to be placed on the budget of every Church and sent to every family. If 75% of our Churches would do this what a boost it would give to the denomination as well as to the local Church and the Publishing Company.

Training

4. The Sunday School Board has made great progress. We need to support the Camp program with even greater zeal. In a few Camps last year there was a decrease in attendance. This should not be. We must keep the Camp work fresh, challenging and growing.

The Sunday School Secretary did a wonderful work on the local level. The Moderator expresses with great regret the resignation of Dr. Shultz and it is his hope the Board will be able to get someone to take his place. Every Sunday School needs the type program he gave. We all need to be

challenged to meet the growing needs of the Sunday School. The Board can only retain the services of such a secretary as we support the work.

Youth

5. The Youth work has indeed been encouraging. The only damper we have placed on their work is lack of money to carry on an aggressive program. If every Brethren Church would place the youth work on their local budget, youth could continue to go places.

NOW, in the above loyalties we could give greater help if all local Churches would adopt the budget system for Benevolences. Every Church ought to sponsor a drive in Stewardship and Tithing. It would pay rich dividends. And each Church ought to make an effort to bring their Benevolent giving up on a level with their local giving. In fact this is one of the best methods of bringing the local giving up to par as well as carrying on an aggressive denominational program. Yet, on each day appointed for the denominational offering, opportunity ought to be given for those who do not use the benevolent side of their envelopes or for those who might have an extra tithe for the Lord. In this way they still have opportunity to give to a cause of their special liking. People ought to have the opportunity to give to any cause above the budgeted part.

Lack of love for Others. The World

Love for others.

We are not only to love the Brethren. We are to love all for whom Christ died. He came to heal the sick, not the well. His task is our task. Hence, Evangelism and as well as Revival needs to be stressed anew in the Brethren Church. If this is not done there will come a time when we will not be able to hold our own. If revival goes, Evangelism goes. If Evangelism goes, Revival goes.

a. Evangelism

Evangelism has three aspects. Teaching Evangelism done in our Sunday Schools and special training classes. These we must continue to encourage. Then there is personal evangelism, which simply means, that every saved person will tell another unsaved person. It means going from house to house with the Gospel. Jesus again and again by example and precept taught this method. And one of the reasons we have so often failed in mass evangelism is because we have failed in personal evangelism. The third, of course, is mass evangelism. We are seeing again some success along this line. Mass Evangelism was employed in the Old Testament. The story of Jonah is one of the best examples. It was also approved in the New Testament by Jesus and His followers. Jesus preached to the multitude. Stephen and Philip preached to the multitude.

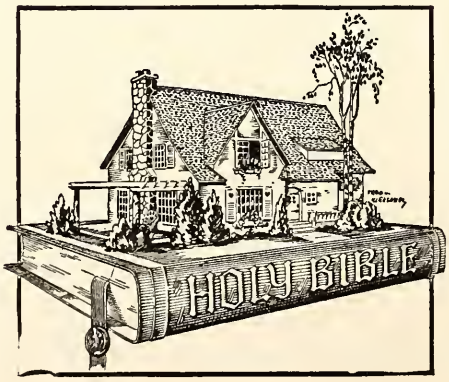
In fact all three of these methods must be used in a growing church. Neglect any one and the Church will lose in proportion. Every Church ought to have a revival each year in which they endeavor to win the inactive to activity and challenge the active to new life as they witness. And every Church ought to have an Evangelistic campaign following a personal house to house campaign. In fact we are living in a day when we must take advantage of every opportunity at our disposal to win men to Christ and build the Church.

b. Missions

This love must also be shown in Missions. That is, we must love the whole world. It is best not to separate Home and Foreign Missions. They are separated only geographically. Spiritually the field is one. And how we have failed here the past ten years.

We should have erected a new Church every year. We used the excuse too long that we did not have Ministers to start new Churches. We are just beginning to see that when we have the Churches we will get the Ministers.

The Mission Board has challenged us anew through the Ten Dollar Club to build new Churches. And where is there a faithful Brethren who would object to give Ten Dollars every year to build a new Church? In fact, IF we were faithful in our Stewardship we would challenge the Mission Board to erect five new Churches every year. All we need to do is practise faithful stewardship.



When it comes to foreign missions, may I say, I hope, without too much criticism, that we have only been playing at Missions. We are just beginning to get our eyes open to the waiting harvest.

In the "Church Life" magazine in the January 1955 issue there appeared an article every Brethren ought to read. The article written by Fred Jarvis was entitled, "The Crime of the Century." Jarvis is not a missionary but the foreign correspondent for a religious magazine. It is a very blunt but to the point article.

He raises the question: "If you were asked what is the crime of the century what would be your answer? Would it be the wars we have fought? Would it be the waste of the American people: Would it be the neglect and breakdown of the American home? Would it be the sweep of Communism over the world?"

Jarvis says it is a much more serious crime. It is the crime of the murder of the souls of men. Then he relates the story of how the missionaries on the field find it hard to understand our comfortable positions here in the face of the millions of endless, hopeless souls going into Christless eternity. This not because they want to, need to nor cannot be saved. But because of us in America who do not care.

He then speaks about the sweat and tears and fasting, the sacrificing and praying of our missionaries on the field. Yet we in America are indifferent, unmoved, unresponsive to the millions of unloved, unsought, untold and unsaved.

Billy Graham said that the Church has failed the heathen. After 50 generations only a small percentage have ever heard the Gospel. American Churches give $41.00 for their own work as against $1.50 for Foreign Missions.

We forget that we are debtors to the least, the lost and the last. We forget that Christ is necessary to ALL or He is not necessary at all. We urge our missionaries to sacrifice abroad but we seek security at

home. One writer has said: "If more of us were abiding in Christ, fewer of us would be abiding in America. If more of us had the love of God in our hearts, we would be sharing it more with others."

Here we have everything. Lovely homes, plenty of nice clothing and food, nice comfortable Churches. There they have no Bibles, no literature, no tracts to give out. There they have no Church buildings. They often worship in shacks we would not use for our cattle.

Our missionaries have to often return either because of broken bodies or to stir us to activity. These missionaries have to teach school, erect buildings, repair cars. They have to do a thousand things because we are not sending them enough workers and material. We ought to have in every mission field, carpenters to teach natives to build; farmers to teach agriculture; mechanics to teach them to repair; school teachers to train the native to teach.

You talk about the second coming of Christ. Yet millions have never heard about His first coming. You talk about the second blessing. Yet millions have never heard of the first blessing. What then is our imperative in the Brethren Church if we do not want to be guilty of this great crime? Either I must go or I must find a substitute.

Oswald Smith of the People's Church in Canada felt the call to the Mission field in his early life. He went from field to field always with the result of sickness and broken health. Finally discovering that he could not go himself he proceeded to get substitutes. This he did through the Church he now serves. He started with three couples until he reached 300. He then said he would not be satisfied until his Church supported 500 Missionaries on the field. Did this mission giving rob his local Church of finances? During all these years his own Church has grown and grown. In fact the growth has been in proportion to its faith in missions.

What his Church has done every Brethren Church can do in proportion. The trouble is we $3500.00 salaried preachers think we rob our own Church, if we become too missionary-minded. If we only knew that the telling of the Gospel whether home or abroad always brings success on the local level. If one church can support over 300 missionaries and yet grow locally, cannot every Brethren Church support at least one? At least we ought to average that number.

The Brethren Church is just going to have to get ready for the new opportunities in our two mission fields. We cannot play at missions any longer if we are to take the Gospel to the 70,000 Higi. We cannot play at missions any longer if we are to grow in South America. It will call for some more missionaries. We are happy that the youth are accepting the challenge. It will therefore call for many, many thousands of dollars. Will we as layity and ministers at home hear the call of the future?

Parents, are you willing to send your children? Christians, are you willing to send a substitute? to represent you? This substitute does not necessarily need to be an American. It might be the support of a Higi. True, the easiest way is to send a substitute. But it may be the only way left open for most of us. And it is the one thing we can do. It may be our Nineveh.

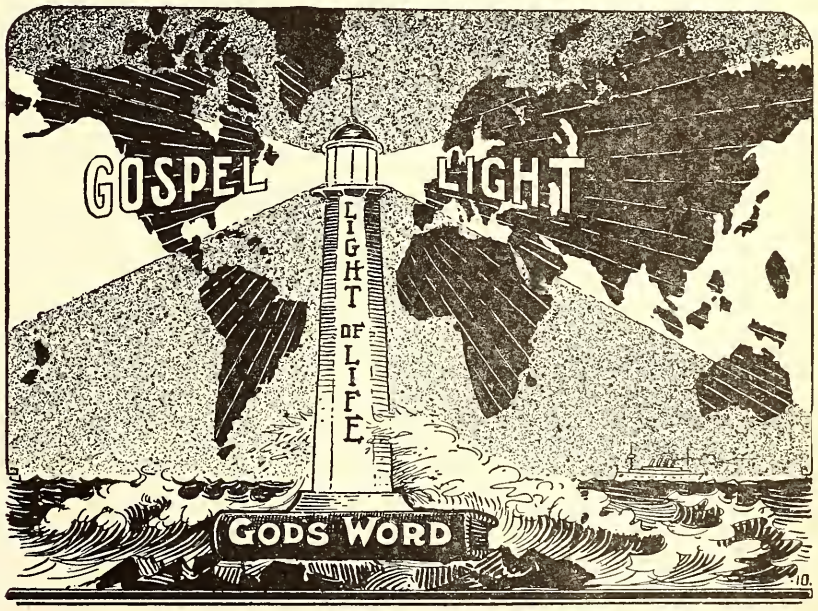
Jarvis said: "If more of our people were filled with the Holy Ghost more would be filled with the Holy Go. Ah, as Brethren people we better be soul stricken NOW than to be conscious stricken in heaven. The selfish withholding of Christ to the Higi or South American will be nothing less than sin laid at our door. And in that state the Brethren Church will not prosper.

To ask God for revival without repenting is an insult to God. To ask God for the conversion of the heathen and then withhold our Tithe is gross sin. To withhold our lives from the Church while millions are dying without Christ is a height of sin and folly.

If we are to build for God we must build the local Church. And when the local Church is strong the denomination will be strong. But the local Church cannot be strong apart from the denomination. Brethren, let us BUILD for the Lord.

Louisville, Ohio.

(Presented to the 68th General Conference of the Brethren Church, assembled at Ashland, Ohio, August 13-19, 1956.)



Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

WHEN OUR SAVIOR RETURNS

We are looking for the moment of our Savior's swift return,
And we know it's fast approaching every hour,
When the Holy Ghost is lifted and this great terrestrial ball
Is submitted to the devil's demon power.
And we know that in that moment, in the twinkling of an eye,
Not a soul on earth will know till it's done.
Just the flicker of an eye lash any moment, any hour,
And He will have in that moment come and gone.

Just a fraction of a second and the door will then be closed,
Barring every soul from Heaven then for aye.
Nevermore will God's great mercy and His great protecting love
Overshadow erring children day by day,
For to those who have then missed it and to those who have come short
Of the only way to Heaven ever won,
It will be a time of horror, when they sense that Jesus loved them,
But had within a moment come and gone!

Oh, could I but draw still nearer to my Savior and my Lord,
Pressing closer, ever closer, every day;
Till His love should like a magnet, draw me upward to His side;
Nevermore, then, from His presence e'er to stray,
Just to live for Jesus only, every minute, every hour,
Just to work for Him until the time is come;
Not to slacken in my efforts for a fraction of a second,
For He may have, in that minute, come and gone.

—Paula Gage.

CHRIST IS COMING BACK to take His own to a prepared place (John 14:2, 3). His coming will be personal, visible, and bodily as when He went away (Acts 1:11; Rev. 1:2). He is coming to be glorified in His saints (2 Thess. 1:10). His saints will also be glorified in Him when He comes (Col. 3:3, 4; John 17:24). This miraculous event will be brought about by the resurrection of the dead saints and the translation of the living saints (1 Thess. 4:14-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-53). The resurrection bodies of the saints will be suited to their redeemed spirits and conform to the body of Christ's glory (1 Cor. 15:35-44); Phil. 3:20).

"This body is my house—it is not I;
Herein I sojourn till, in some far sky,
I lease a fairer dwelling, built to last
Till all the time of carpentry is past" (2 Cor. 5:1).

The saints will have to give an accounting of their stewardship of life when Jesus comes (2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 22:12). After the rapture of the saints comes the great tribulation on earth (Matt. 24:21,22; Jer. 30:7). Israel's repentance and restoration will occur at the end of the tribulation when Jesus comes with His saints to earth (Zech. 12:10, 11; Rom. 2:25; Jer. 23:78). The two stages of Christ's coming—the rapture or coming FOR His saints, and the revelation or coming WITH His saints—are indicated in Scripture (1 Thess. 4:17; Zech. 14:15; Jude 14, 15).

The exact time of Christ's return is known only to the Father (Matt. 25:13; Mark 13:32). The New Testament signs of Christ's return are that the time is imminent (1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Tim. 4:1; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Luke 21:25-28) The saints of every generation are taught to be in readiness for His coming (Luke 21:36; Matt. 24:44; Titus 2:12, 13). The Christian's attitude toward this event should be a joyful anticipation (2 Tim. 4:12; Heb. 9:28).

After the revelation Christ will establish His earthly kingdom (Dan. 2:44; Psalm 72:11; Rev. 11:15). His reign will be that of peace and justice (Isaiah 32:1; Psalm 72:2, 3, 7, 12). The saints will rule and reign with Christ (Rev. 3:21; 5:9, 10; Rom. 8:17). Meanwhile the saints have a life to live and a work to do (Heb. 10:24, 25; Matt. 16:24-27; Col. 3:2-4; Phil. 4:4-5). We are still in the day of grace for added opportunity (2 Peter 3:8, 9; Rom. 2:4). It would appear that the unsaved will not have another opportunity for salvation after the revelation (2 Thess. 1:7-9). We are told that there will be a new heaven and a new earth (2 Peter 3:10-13; Rev 21:1-5).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for August 26, 1956

STRENGTH THROUGH TRIAL

Lesson: James 1:2-18

"GROW IN GRACE, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (II Peter 3:18). With these words Peter would remind us that Spiritual growth is essential for the Christian. There are several ways the Christian may grow. **Trial**, or **testing**, is one of them.

James wrote to Jewish Christians scattered by persecution. He wanted them to understand that trial is **God-permitted**, and **God-purposed.**

In the midst of severe testing what should be the attitude of the Christian? "Count it all joy." How strange! Is it possible to be filled with **joy** when body and soul are being racked with trouble? Yes it is, if you bear in mind that out of the trial will come blessing.

What possible good can trial bring? "Knowing this that the trying (trial) of your faith worketh patience." And the work of patience will result in your being "fully

leveloped and perfectly equipped, without any defects" 1:4—Wms.).

God is so good to His Children. He is filled with goodness, and mercy, and love, and compassion. Because this s so, He has their eternal welfare always in mind. When He corrects and chastens it is always with **love.** When He permits trial and testing it is with **wisdom.** We can rest fully in Him, knowing "that all things go on working together for the good of those who keep on loving God" Rom. 8:28—Wms.).

Enduring trial and temptation is not easy. It does, however, have its reward. In this life, as was pointed out, t produces **patience.** But testing that is endured will also produce eternal rewards in the life to come. "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him."

The Crown of Life! This is the eternal reward God has promised to every faithful Child of God who will endure the testings of life. No wonder the Heroes of Faith of yesterday were willing to suffer for the cause of Christ! They could say with Paul: "For our light affliction, which s but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (II Cor. 4:17).

James would have us thoroughly understand the nature of temptation and testing. It does **not** come from God! It s, however, permitted by God. There is a great difference. A man is tempted because there is an inward response to evil. James says: "Every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed." Rev. Don J. Kenyon in commenting on this verse says: "Remember that even a mouse would not get caught if it didn't like cheese!"

"Uncle Eb, an old colored preacher, was once asked by a visitor to his church how he would define Christian perseverance when one is severely tempted and tried.

"'Well, sah,' answered Uncle Eb, scratching his gray head thoughtfully, 'it means, firstly, to take hold; secondly, to hold on; and thirdly and lastly, to nebber leave go.'"

Wedding Announcement

JOHNS-RINGLEY. Katherine Marie Johns and Frank Ervin Ringley were united in holy matrimony at the Brush Valley Brethren Church at 2:00 P. M., Saturday, June 9. After the double-ring ceremony, a reception was held in the West Kittanning Fire Hall. They are both members of this church, and will make their new home in Massillon, Ohio.

David L. Rambsel.

RIDELL-PHEASANT. Betty Louise Ridell and Chalmer E. Pheasant, both of the Third Brethren Church of Johnstown, Pa., were united in marriage at the home of the bridegroom, Johnstown, Pa. They exchanged vows in a double-ring ceremony on Saturday evening, June 30. The couple will reside in their home town. A cousin of the bridegroom officiated.

David L. Rambsel.

Laid to Rest

BAILEY. Mrs. Edith Bailey, wife of James Bailey, member of the Carleton Brethren Church, died suddenly, May 14, 1956, through an accident at the railroad crossing in Carleton. Born May 30, 1889. Survived by husband, one son and one daughter, 4 grandsons and one sister. Faithful member of the W. M. S., serving as a song leader for many years. Funeral services, Carleton Brethren Church, by the undersigned.

Claude Stogsdill.

* * *

LIVINGS. Mrs. Maude Livings, died of a heart attack, at home, Davenport, Nebr., May 2, 1956, aged 65. Married to Harry Livings, March 1924. Survived by husband, two sons, one granddaughter, two sisters and five brothers. Member of the Brethren Church, having joined in her early teens. Funeral services, Carleton Brethren Church, by the undersigned. Interment Davenport cemetery.

Claude Stogsdill.

* * *

LEMON. Mrs. Amanda Ruth (Wolters) Lemon, Portis, Kans., departed this life July 14, 1956, aged 65 yrs., 7 mo., 3 days. Married to Dell G. Lemon, April 17, 1910. Member of the Brethren Church. Survived by husband, two sons, three brothers and grandchildren. Funeral services, Brethren Church, Portis, Kans., by Rev. J. F. Burton, Mulvane, Kans., with Rev. H. H. Stewart assisting. Interment in Garrett cemetery.

J. F. Burton.

* * *

HENDRIX. Wright Hendrix, staunch and faithful member of the Brethren Church, Burlington, Ind., was called home to be with the Lord, July 21, 1956. Preceded in death by his wife, Roxie, two years ago. Both were well known throughout the brotherhood. Mr. Hendrix was 77 yrs. of age. Survived by daughter. Funeral service, Burlington Brethren Church, July 24, with Elders Swihart, Studebaker and Sibert officiating. Burial in Burlington.

Floyd Sibert, pastor.

* * *

GALLAGHER. Phyllis Jean Gallagher, daughter of Henry and Tessie Neisley, was born March 27, 1919, and God called her home June 26, 1956, aged 37 years and 3 months, save one day. Faithful member of the Brethren Church, Pleasant Hill, Ohio, having been baptized March 1933. On August 14, 1937 was married to Jack Gallagher, and God blessed them with two children, Charlotte and David, both now at home. Survived by husband, children, mother, three sisters, and two brothers. Funeral services conducted in the Church by her Pastor, the undersigned, assisted by her former Pastor, the Rev. Samuel J. Adams. Interment, Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

William H. Anderson.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

THE FIRST LEG IS OVER

BUT WE ARE SURE there will be more ahead! Frankly, this heading has a double meaning. It is true that the "first leg" of the Ambassador Quartet trip is over. But we also are pleased to inform you that we have had more than our first "leg" of chicken. This we like . . . and we are looking forward to more ahead (hint).

These words are actually being written on August 5th in the James Mackall residence on Poplar Avenue, Vinco, Pennsylvania. They, and the Bill Stevens family, are caring for us during our visit here. The enthusiastic receptions given us at Brush Valley, Vandergrift, and Pittsburgh were much appreciated. Brethren, don't ever tell each other that our people are uninterested in what is presented to them. To be very sure, we could all be doing more, but thanks to you folks in the above named churches, and to Vinco tonight, for your welcome. The Ambassadors have been strengthened in their mission by being with you.

But enough of my utterances. I'll bow out for a time so the other three quarters of the songsters may speak.

FIRST, MARLIN SPEAKS . . . "The first four services are over. It seems like the first ones are the hardest. We have been very well received everywhere we have gone. The people are eager to hear the Word of God and the music. We have had good crowds in spite of the rain and wind (the wind at Pittsburgh just about blew us out of the state—but the folks came out). It has been a blessing to me to meet these wonderful people in Pennsylvania. They sure do know how to cook. We have had three chicken dinners in the last three days, which, I might add, is my favorite dish. All in all I have been having a wonderful time doing the Lord's work, and I am looking forward to the next five weeks of traveling."

NEXT, RAY ADDS . . . "In spite of all the storms, we have come through 'hail and high water' without a scratch. The Brethren have given us much better receptions than the weatherman. I hope the Gospel of peace has found the way into the hearts of those we have contacted, for this is the main purpose of the trip."

THEN, CHUCK . . . "Gather around the inevitable T.V. and we'll have a 'fireside chat,' so common to many of us during F. D. R.'s administration. Naturally my report is a good one. The receptions by our people have been warm and filling. We must admit, however that the elements have been somewhat contrary to the arrival of the Ambassador Quartet in several Pennsylvania cities. This, I trust, is no reflection upon our music. As a group, and we always include Rolf, we are much encouraged with your interest in this project. It is wonderful to realize that we, as a church, can reach out across the ocean in our witness for Christ. Remember that we're in this together and your prayers are needed. Well, T. V. is signing off, so our fireside chat will close with it. If you don't recognize us this conference week, it's because the Pennsylvania people are feeding us too well. Why, at Vinco we even had to roll Marlin to the service.

"P. S. If your German is poor 'until . . . ' Auf Wiedersehen, Rolf, help me out, huh?"

Now this is Phil back again, and I thank my friends for these preceding words. We don't have any more word from Rolf right now, but in a couple of weeks, the full report of his summer's work in Germany will be presented. Watch for it and other news items.

TOMORROW and TOMORROW and TO . . .

the HOWARDS at Armagh. We'll join with young people from Cambria County for an evening of sports and worship tomorrow night. I'm looking forward to that "grudge" soft-ball game, but even more to the vespers conducted by Rev. Stogsdill and more of the outing led by Walter Wertz. Let's all get our Brethren Youth together in Christian fellowship as often as we can in all the districts.

CONCLUSION

It is evident from what we've said that the tour has started well, and for that we give thanks. But now I sincerely feel that some sleep would benefit our entire cause more than additional words typed at this late hour. More of travels and plans will be coming next week. Goodbye!

JANET KING marries STANLEY FOX

KING-FOX. Miss Janet Louise King, Louisville, Ohio was united in marriage to Stanley Fox, Berlin Heights Ohio, June 16th, 1956, at 4:00 in the Brethren Church Louisville, Ohio. The reception which followed was held in the E. U. B. Church parlors.

The first part of the service was conducted by Rev. Robert Bischof. After giving her away, the Father, Rev. L. V. King, completed the service.

Janet graduated from Ashland College. She taught school in Ashland, Elkhart, Hillcrest, Jos, Nigeria and East Canton, Ohio.

Stanley is a graduate of Ashland College and Bowling Green. He has been head of the schools at Berlin Heights.

They are now residing in Berlin Heights, Ohio, where Mr. Fox will continue to supervise school.

L. V. King.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

OUR BIBLE SCHOOL was held May 21 to June 3. There were twenty-four teachers and helpers and Rev. and Mrs. Tinkel. Eighty children were enrolled. There were two Pre-school classes, one Primary, one Junior and one Junior High class. The chairman had planned so thoroughly, but was only able to be present twice, as she was moving to a distant city.

It was thrilling and encouraging to see the children with their bright and happy faces, marching into the auditorium for the opening exercises. This included two songs, the Pledges to the American flag, the Christian flag and the Bible. When the prayer song was sung and prayer given, hands were folded and heads reverently bowed. The offering was given as they went to their classes.

The children were eager and anxious to hear the Bible stories and to learn memory verses that were required each day. They made many different things in hand-craft each morning. Colored movies were taken of the different groups at work.

All came back to the auditorium for dismissal, then marched out in order, ready to go home and plan to be back the next morning.

The last day a picnic was held in the church basement.

On Sunday evening, June 3, "Adventurama," the D. V. B. S. program, was given and the work of the two weeks was exhibited and the movies were shown.

Fifty-two had a perfect attendance record and fourteen missed only one day, making an average daily attendance of eighty-three.

The teachings of this Bible School should follow these children throughout their entire lives and reach farther than one might realize. In Isaiah 11:6 we read "and a little child shall lead them." It was a very interesting and successful Bible School.

Mrs. Virgie Nixon,
Oakville, Indiana.

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Ashland, Ohio

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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NATIONAL GOALS ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

1955-56

TWELVE HIGH CHURCHES—Possible 100 Points

VINCO, PA.	93
AKRON, OHIO, Firestone Park	89
SMITHVILLE, OHIO	88
BERLIN, PA.	87
MASONTOWN, PA.	86
LOUISVILLE, OHIO	83
CANTON, OHIO Trinity	82
NEW LEBANON, OHIO	82
ELKHART, IND.	81
TUCSON, ARIZ.	80
NEW PARIS, IND.	79
NORTH LIBERTY, IND.	78
Total number reports received at Conference Time	**71**

By Districts:

INDIANA DISTRICT	26
OHIO DISTRICT	13
PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT	15
MID-WEST	5
CENTRAL	2
SOUTHEASTERN	0
N. CALIFORNIA	0

Check the Statistical Report to see where your church stands. WORK and PRAY for a Greater Goals Program in The Brethren Church.

The National Goals Committee:
R. K. Higgins, Chairman
W. S. Crick
Henry Bates
L. O. McCartneysmith
E. J. Black

(EXPLANATION OF REPORT ON PAGE TWO)

VOL. LXXVIII August 25, 1956 No. 33

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Church History
Rev. Edwin Boardman, Church Methods

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: In ordering change of address always give both old and new addresses.
REMITTANCES: Send all money, business communications, and contributed articles to: THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING COMPANY, ASHLAND, OHIO.

Items of General Interest

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. The Laymen have, through their "Local Project," purchased a new power mower for the Church.

OAK HILL, W. VA. The Sunday morning services of the Oak Hill Church were broadcast over WOAY during the month of July.

The Oak Hill bulletin announces that revival services, with Rev. Ralph Mills as Evangelist, were scheduled to begin August 21st.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Rev. Palmer M. Slenker, from the Quincy Orphanage, was guest speaker in the Wayne Heights Church the morning of August 19th.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. Brother Horace Huse has tendered his resignation as pastor of the Meyersdale congregation, to take up the pastorate of the Loree, Indiana, Church on November 1st.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. A note in the North Liberty bulletin shows a recent Sunday School attendance of 122; noted also is an attendance of 85 at their S. S picnic, "a wonderful day and a wonderful time of fellowship."

MUNCIE, INDIANA. From the Muncie bulletin we quote, relative to Brother E. J. Black, who has been ill "Word has been received that Rev. Black is improving." Let us continue to remember Brother Black in our prayers.

WARSAW, INDIANA. The Choir of the Warsaw church is scheduled to journey to the Brethren's Home at Flora, on August 26th to present a musical program

(Continued on Page 7)

REPORT OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

ATTENDANCE at the 68th General Conference of the Brethren Church, remained good all week, and through the closing services on Sunday. Weather, although at times warm, was favorable, in that it was dry for the week.

Last week, we reported the opening part of the Conference, and the new Conference officers. These were installed Saturday morning at the close of the business session. Plans have been made by the various Boards and Auxiliaries of the Conference for the work of the new year, and the delegates have returned home with the resolve to work and serve under the blessing of our heavenly Father in the coming year.

A word of appreciation is in order for Brother William S. Crick, Pastor of our new mission Church at Newark, Ohio, for his 17 years of service to the General Conference as National Statistician. Brother Crick, when nominated this year, declined, and his request was granted. Many thanks, Brother Crick for the many years of faithfulness and accuracy in keeping the vital statistical records of our denomination.

A full report of the happening of the business of Conference, will appear in the forthcoming Annual Number of the Evangelist. (This opus is scheduled to appear the latter part of October, following the meeting of the Central and Mid-West District Conferences.)

The next General Conference of the Brethren Church the 69th, will be held at Ashland, Ohio, August 19t through 25th, 1957, being the 75th Anniversary year o the Brethren Church. Some very special features, in com memoration of this 75th Anniversary, and of the 250t Anniversary of the German Baptist Brethren, in 1958, wi be given at next year's Conference. Plan now to atten W. S. B.

GOALS COMMITTEE REPORT

On Page One we have printed the Annual Report o the National Goals Committee. The Goals, upon whic this report is based appeared in the **Brethren Evangelis** September 19, 1955. The new 1956-57 Goals will appe later in the **Evangelist.**

The Dayton, Ohio report which was received too la for tabulation in the report of the twelve high Churche reported an achievement of 79 points. We are glad give them this special mention upon their achievemen and to commend all churches for their efforts. We jo with Brother R. K. Higgins, Goals Committee Chairma and his committee, in urging all churches to make greater effort towards achieving as high a record possible this Conference year.

The Editor's Pulpit

Echoes Of General Conference

ANOTHER GENERAL CONFERENCE is past. In our minds echo and re-echo the words of he speakers and delegates, both in the Confer-ence sessions and in conversations on and off the grounds. Vivid in our mind is the congregational singing by the delegates and friends.

There is much to remember, to think about,—and to pray about.

The matter of Roll Revision in our churches, whereby members are removed from active membership, or from inactive rolls, and which was a matter of concern by Brother L. V. King in his Moderator's Address, cannot be passed off lightly.

Roll Revision figured considerably in holding our net gain to an almost negligible membership gain of 25 for the year. Roll Revision has been a major factor for many years, in holding back a major net gain in membership in our denomination. We grant that many of our churches are just now beginning to revise their membership rolls after having not done so for many years. Granted, once in a generation for instance, but it should not, in our opinion, be a continuing process, as it well seems to be.

The Brethren may well ponder the question: **"What is the matter that we are losing members at the same rate we are gaining them, year after year?"**

Does it not occur to pastor, church boards, officials and members that the ones being lost through Roll Revision, are people, with souls, precious in the sight of God, who once stood at the sacred altar of the Church and took vows to be faithful to their Christian profession and to the Church?

Backing up Moderator King's concern on this matter, we suggest as a challenge for this church year the motto: **"Reclaiming the Inactive!"** It is our opinion that no person should be placed on an inactive roll, or removed from the roll completely until he or she has been contacted in a Christian effort to ascertain the cause and condition of their inactivity. This, with the end in view of reclaiming them as active, working members, if at all possible.

There are many local conditions which bring about "inactive members," leading eventually to Roll Revision—into which no one from General Headquarters can step with the answer. But we are certain that if local Boards and pastors will seek to analyze the "why" of each "inactive," it might be possible to stem the tide of Roll Revision, which, year after year, is continuing to exact such a dreadful toll from our net membership gain.

Conference also took definite steps to strengthen our denominational stand on our basic Doctrines of Baptism by Triune Immersion and the Three-fold Communion service. (Details of this will appear in the Conference Annual minutes to be published at a later date.) While the Brethren Church has always had these fundamental doctrines and practices, the action of the 68th General Conference has certainly cleared up any doubts as to the importance in the minds of the Brethren of these basic doctrines.

The 68th Conference was an important one. Let us build this year, on what has been done, making it a year which will redound to the glory of the Lord. Next year, we will be commemorating 75 years of the Brethren Church. By working smoothly in all facets of Church life, we can come together, having realized a higher progress level in our labors of erecting a building "fitly joined together." To this end let us pray and labor, seeking the leadership and power of the Holy Spirit each passing day. W. S. B.

WAITING UPON THE LORD

Rev. H. William Fells

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 40:28-31

* * *

THIS IS THE SEASON of the year that many of us consider this matter of waiting upon the Lord more seriously than at any other time of the year. But I say to you, that we must wait upon Him each and every day. What do you hear in that phrase, "They that wait upon the Lord?" It means solitude, quietness, searching the Bible, spending time in meditation and prayer to the servant of the Lord.

How many of us actually WAIT upon the Lord? This does not imply that the Lord is behind us and we have to wait for Him to catch up with us. It means rather, serving the Lord, as a slave waits upon his master. We are to keep so close a contact with the Lord, that we are ready and willing to do His every bidding. Dearly beloved how many of us today wait upon the Lord in such a way that we are ready for each directive? There are many who do, don't let us be as Elijah, thinking that we are the only one left, when right around us and perhaps very near to us there may be as many as seven thousand.

But we are not to look at those around us, let us look within this morning. Are we able to sit for half an hour in a room with nothing but the chair in which we sit and the Bible or book that we hold in our hands? Oh no, we do not have time for this type of waiting. We have so much to do We must be moving. Why? It could be because we are afraid to spend that much time with the Lord for fear that He will ask us to speak a word or perform a task for Him. So we go dashing hither and yon, doing the things that we think are important, and then when there is a crisis in our lives and we need spiritual strength we do not always have it. Many times we have ever

(A devotional message given over radio station WATG Ashland, Ohio)

lost the ability to acquire it anew. Remember the phrase "They that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength." Let each of us renew our strength in the next few hours, knowing the Joy of our salvation, ready to redeem the time. Those that do this shall mount up as eagles.

Beloved there are three things that we should consider about the eagle. First, where does she build her home? It is high up on the rocky crag, thousands of feet above the earth where any of her foe might live. As near to heaven as she can possibly live. And she gives of her own body, from the down of her breast that her little ones might be kept warm and comfortable. She builds that home on a rock. And here we are reminded of the two men that built their houses in the scriptures. One, a foolish man built his on the sand, and when the rains came his house was washed away. The other a wise man, built his house on the rock, and his house stood firm, just as the eagle's stands firm.

The second thing that we would look at about this eagle this morning is her eyes. Those who have studied the great eagle tells us that she can look straight into the sun. Never a squint or a blink of the eye. And she seems to be invigorated by this act. Something happens inside her when she gazes directly into the sun. How does a gaze into the face of the Son of God affect us in our world today? Can we continue to look into His face and praise Him for all that He has done for us? Or do we hang our heads or turn our backs because our eyes are not used to that wondrous beauty.

The third matter of importance about the eagle is her wings. Often having a spread of seven feet, her wings are the most powerful part of her body outside of her eyes. But beloved, she did not gather this strength by sitting on the nest. No, and she never goes down toward the earth for food without first going up into the sky. She always soars away above the earth after leaving the nest, before she turns toward the earth. And she teaches her little ones this same habit. And another striking fact about the strength of the eagle's wings is that she enjoys soaring far above the storm clouds first, as near to the sun as she can get, then she drops right into the middle of a mighty thunder storm, with the flashes of lightning, the roar of the thunder and the mighty rushing of the wind. But she knows no fear. In fact, this is a part of her exercise. This is the way she gathers much of her great strength. Is it any wonder that Isaiah could say, "They that wait upon the Lord, shall mount up with wings as eagles."

Now the last two phrases seem to be in reverse order according to the wisdom of man. But many times God uses the reverse order for our lessons. The scripture says he will use the foolish things of the world to confound the wise, and the weak things to confound the things which are mighty. Even so here: It is the running and not being weary that is often the easiest. Many of the servants of the Lord find it easy to take a special task that the Lord has for them and to run with it and get it accomplished, but when it comes to the walking and not fainting many are falling by the wayside. Let us think of the many times that God has called us to some special visit at a time of sickness or death, a moment when someone needed a special bit of God's grace and strength. There are many that can perform duties similar to this and very graciously too. And we pray God's continued blessing and guidance for them. But dear friends, all of us have difficulty with this matter of walking and not fainting. The every day walk of life with the Master is the part wherein we are tested the most. Our friends and neighbors are prone to say, "Your actions speak so loud, we can't hear what you are saying."

Ashland, Ohio.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

STORK FINDS SHANKS IN NIGERIA

Word has just been received that Rev. and Mrs. Glen Shank have a new baby daughter, Donna Jean, born on August 13. The cable further stated that both Jean and the baby were getting along fine.

We congratulate this missionary couple who are working faithfully at the Waka Training Center in Nigeria, Africa. May God continue to bless their entire family.

SUNDAY CONFERENCE OFFERING EXCELLENT

The General Conference offering taken on Sunday amounted to $1,527.57. This is an offering for missions and will be used toward the church building program at Sarasota, Florida. The Missionary Board is grateful for this offering and happy to report that it is the largest Conference Offering received in many years.

SARASOTA BOUND

All roads lead to Sarasota for the Reverend Lyle Lichtenbergers these days. The Lichtenbergers will be closing their pastorate at Berlin, Penna., the last Sunday in August and will be arriving in Sarasota, Florida to take up the pastoral duties there about the second full week in September. They are anticipating the many joys and blessings that come in the work of pastoring a new congregation. At the same time they are aware of the problems and the hard work that is involved in their task. May God take us with them to Sarasota in our prayers.

NEW OFFICE LOCATION

The Missionary Board office will be moved to 530 College Avenue some time within the next few weeks. The new location will be one door west of the Brethren Publishing Company in property owned by the Publishing Company. This new arrangement will give the Publishing Company more room for their growing bookstore and will give us enlarged office quarters which we have needed.

CONFERENCE STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP

The Stewardship Workshop conducted during General Conference was set up by the Missionary Board at the request of the Executive Committee of Conference. The primary emphasis in the workshop periods was upon building a financial program in the local church. Those who attended spoke highly of the benefits derived from these sessions. Many who attended participated in the discussions.

MISSIONARY CANDIDATES CONSECRATED

Reverend and Mrs. Charles Kraft and Mr. and Mrs. John Rowsey were consecrated for missionary service on the Thursday night missionary program during General Conference. Reverend and Mrs. Kraft are under appointment to Nigeria, Africa and Mr. and Mrs. Rowsey are under appointment to Argentina, South America.

The Krafts will be completing their Seminary work at Ashland this fall and the Rowseys will be attending the fall term at Kennedy School of Missions at Hartford, Connecticut. Pray that God may continue to direct these young people in the completion of their training.

Ten Dollar Club

Ten Dollar Club payments are still coming in but there are still many individual members who have not answered the last call for Sarasota. Your payment will be most welcome; make it as soon as possible.

The Board has taken steps to increase the membership of the club. You will be apprised of these plans in due time; however, if you are a loyal supporter begin now to win another member or two for the Ten Dollar Club.

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

The newly elected officers of the Missionary Board for the year of 1956-57 are as follows:

President .....Dr. E. M. Riddle
First Vice President .....Rev. J. D. Hamel
Second Vice President .....Dr. John F. Locke
Third Vice President .....Mr. Harlan Hollewell
Treasurer .....Mrs. Delbert B. Flora

Mr. Ivan Ronk of Goshen, Indiana, was elected to fill the unexpired term of his father, the late Willis E. Ronk.

MISSIONARY BOARD MET IN ANNUAL SESSION

The Missionary Board convened on Friday morning August 10, for its annual meeting. Sessions were continued on August 11 and 13 with three brief meetings during the days of General Conference. Much time was given to careful, prayerful planning which we are confident will bear fruit in the days ahead.

MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP BANQUET

The annual Missionary Banquet sponsored by the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church was held at the Park Street Brethren Church on Tuesday night during

conference week.. The sixty-five people attending the banquet included the members of the Missionary Board and their wives and husbands, missionaries on furlough, home mission pastors and workers and their wives, missionary candidates under appointment and guests.

Mr. Harlan Hollewell, third vice president of the board, was the toastmaster for the evening. Mr. Hollewell introduced the following people who spoke briefly on their respective work: Mr. Dorman Ronk, Lost Creek, Ky.; Miss Margaret Lowery, Krypton, Ky.; General Secretary W. Clayton Berkshire, Ashland, Ohio; Rev. Vernon Grisso, Tucson, Arizona; Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, Washington, D. C.; Rev. C. Y. Gilmer, Manteca, Cal. and Rev. Fred C. Vanator, Sarasota, Florida.

(Mrs.) Ida Lindower, Administrative Assistant, was in charge of the program and banquet arrangements. We commend Mrs. Lindower for her excellent work. W. C. B.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Brother E. A. Duker was the guest speaker at the August 19th morning service.

We note that the South Bend bulletin is presently carrying the by-line, "Serving the Lord faithfully in South Bend for 70 years."

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Two new members were received into the church recently.

The Laymen's Public service was held the morning of August 12th, with John Porte, chief of the South Bend Detectives, as speaker.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. An "Appreciation Luncheon" for Sunday School workers, was held on the parsonage lawn the evening of August 5th. Brother H. F. Berkshire reports an attendance of 19 at the occasion.

H. B. Puterbaugh, of Tucson, a former resident of Lanark, brought the message in the Lanark church the morning of August 5th.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. From the Tucson bulletin we quote: "All attendances at the church this summer are much improved over former summers."

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

MISS HAVERGAL'S JOURNAL OF MERCIES

"The Lord is gracious and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy." Psalm 145:8.

FRANCIS RIDLEY HAVERGAL kept what she called a "Journal of Mercies." In it she recorded, out of her own experience, instances of God's goodness. And out of such a record she was able to produce many of her great hymns. She believed wholeheartedly that the Lord is gracious . . . and of great mercy, and she trained herself to be on the watch for evidences of the Lord's lovingkindness. This habit of watching for personal experiences punctuated her days with happy reminders of God and His goodness. And when she read her Bible and found the rich promises that are scattered throughout the Word she could say "I know that to be true out of my own experience."

It is to be wondered whether we might all be benefitted from keeping a journal of mercies. To obey Paul's counsel to the Philippians to think on whatever is true, just, honorable, pure and lovely. Such thinking would drive out any complaining moods and quiet the sensitive disposition. Thinking thus of things worth while would put music in our hearts and a song on our lips.

Remembering yesterday's mercies will kindle courage for encountering the difficulties of today. And as the memories of the mercies of yesterday and the days before pile up we shall find the present difficulties less appalling and we shall be strengthened to overcome our fears and doubts. "To take account of God's goodness today is to face the unforseen experiences of tomorrow with confidence and assurance."

PASTOR WANTED

The Brethren Church at Cerro Gordo, Illinois desires to contact any one interested in the pastorate of this Church. Our pastor, Rev. Kenneth Mock, has resigned and will leave October 1, 1956. Write to:

Mrs. Lenora G. Snoke,
Oakley, Illinois.

PASTOR NEEDED

The Pleasant View Brethren Church of Vandergrift, Penna., will be in need of a pastor on October 1, 1956, as our pastor, Rev. Paul M. Naff, will be leaving the pastorate at that time. Any Brethren minister who is interested please write to:

Thelma M. Fish, Secretary
Box 62
Vandergrift, Pennsylvania.

PASTOR DESIRED

We desire the service of a minister who would be interested in the Pittsburgh pastorate at an early date. Contact:

First Brethren Church,
Clyde A. Garland, Secretary,
1004 North Homewood Ave.,
Pittsburgh 8, Pennsylvania.

AVAILABLE FOR CALL

Since I am closing my pastorate with the Cerro Gordo Brethren, I will be available for call as of the 1st of October. Any Church interested please write Box 581, Cerro Gordo, Illinois.

Rev. Kenneth C. Mock.

I Speak for Christian Citizenship:

» A LETTER TO MY CONGRESSMAN «

Miss Lois Shanholtz

LOIS SHANHOLTZ is the Maryland State winner of the Christian Endeavor Christian Citizenship Award, Class A, and placed second in the Middle Atlantic region. She lives at Linwood, Maryland, and is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Bruce C. Shanholtz, pastor of the Brethren Church at Linwood.

Lois writes, in response to the Editor's request for her to send in her winning essay: "This contest was open to youth up to the age of twenty-five and was divided into two divisions: A, for those in High School, or below; and B, for those out of High School.

"The Christian Endeavor Christian Citizenship Awards were granted on the basis of Christian character, service as a Christian citizen and an understanding of Christian responsibility as evidenced by the contents of the letter, "I Speak For Christian Citizenship," and a citizenship service record which demonstrated the purpose of the individual's life and work. A recommendation from your High School principal and pastor was also necessary.

"Here," Lois continues to write, "are some of the activities I have already taken part in or will take part in in the near future. At the Linwood Brethren Youth Public Service I presented my essay to the congregation. I was special guest on radio WTTR, Westminster, Maryland, Thursday, June 27th. I presented my essay at this time. I attended part of the Citizenship Convocation at Washington, D. C., June 29-July 1. The Citizenship awards were presented Saturday night, June 30th, with Senator Judd as guest speaker. I also presented my essay at a Carroll County C. E. Rally, July 15th. I will be special guest at the Maryland Christian Endeavor State Convention, September 14-16, presenting my winning essay to the assembly Friday night, September 14th. I also gave my essay in school to the graduating class."

We are glad to present to **Evangelist** readers the prize winning essay by Lois Shanholtz.—W. S. B.

FIRST OF ALL, what is a Christian? A Christian is a disciple of Christ, a civilized person, with love and understanding for all his neighbors, regardless of race or creed.

Second, what is Citizenship? A citizen; (Desk Standard Dictionary) is a person owing allegiance to, and entitled to protection from, a government. Citizenship is the status of a citizen, with all its rights and privileges.

The disciples, we are told, in Acts 11:26, were first called Christians at Antioch. The name Christian, which, in the only other cases where it appears in the New Testament (Acts 26:28 and I Peter 4:16), is used contemptuously, could not be applied by the Gentile world. In other words, the early disciples were nicknamed Christians by the world because they acted like Christ. However, it is the very name Christ desired they should have.

The use of the term, Citizenship, in Scripture has exclusive reference to the usages of the Roman Empire. The privileges of Roman Citizenship was originally acquired in various ways, as by purchase (Acts 22:28), as by military services by favor, or by liberation. The right as a citizen once obtained; descended to a man's children. In Acts (chs. 21, 22) Paul speaks of his citizenship as a Roman. He also refers here and elsewhere to another citizenship, which he had obtained through Christ.

Among the privileges attached to citizenship, we may note that a man could not be bound or imprisoned without a formal trial, (Acts 22:29), neither could he be scourged, (Acts 16:37). Another privilege attached to citizenship was the appeal from a provincial tribunal to the emperor at Rome (Acts 25:11), or in other words the right of appeal from a lower court to the highest court of the land.

In Christian lands today, and in particular, democracies as founded on the principles of the New Testament, a citizen is afforded the above mentioned privileges as well as other privileges which a citizen under other forms of government is deprived of. Thus, we see that the concept of Citizenship under a democracy has for its basis and background the New Testament.

Now, in the spiritual realm, Paul's philosophy of citizenship is two-fold. He is a citizen of the country in which he lives with all its rights and privileges. But, in the strictest sense, he is on a pilgrimage here, for his real citizenship is in heaven. See the following scriptures, Acts 21:39; Hebrews 11:13, 14; I Peter 2:9-12. In the study of these Scriptures and other related passages, we find that during our pilgrimage here on this earth, seeking for a better country, it is expected of us to be good citizens, and, the first requirement to be a good citizen is to be a Christian. To be a good Christian Citizen, one has to start young in life. Then, like Bunyan in his Pilgrim's Progress run with all his might; crying, "Life! Life! Eternal Life!" Too, he must give heed to the advice of the Wise Man: "Remember now, Thy Creator, in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." (Eccle. 12:1).

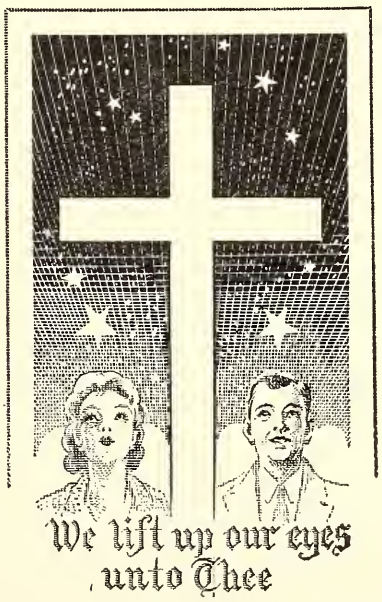
Therefore, Christian Citizenship begins on the local level. (a) First in the home; the marks of which, are obedience to parents, respect for them, and loyalty to their teachings. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor thy father and mother." (b) In the church; here is where the Bible is taught and proclaimed, which sets forth the concepts of Christian Citizenship. (c) In the community; beginning in the home and in the Church, then one's influence goes out to others round about him in the community. He respects and regards the rights of his fellow-citizens. This influence radiates on out into one's affairs of life, in school, and in the business world.

Some of the characteristics of a model Christian Citizen are: good manners and politeness in the home; respect and reverence for the Church; courtesy towards others; promptness, honesty and integrity in all our business relationships; obedience to the laws of the land; a definite stand against everything that is unchristian, and in particular, the use of alcoholic drinks, gambling, and prejudice. For, these are not only harmful to the individual, but are causes of crime. The Christian Citizen practices love toward all men of every race, color, and creed. The Christian Citizen knows the evils of Communism in that it promotes its cause by hate and deception. He also knows that Communism is the great enemy of Christianity and where Communism rules, the individual is no longer free to obey the dictates of his own heart and conscience but rather the state, for he is its servant. Daniel Webster said, "Whatever makes men good Christians makes them good citizens."

The great need today is more Christians. Therefore, this will mean, better citizens and a better world. The challenge is, Christian Citizenship **today** for a better **Tomorrow**!

I am a Christian Citizen. I urge all to be like-minded.

Linwood, Maryland.



REPORT OF INDIANA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE SIXTY-NINTH CONFERENCE of the Indiana District Brethren Churches and Bible Conference was held at the Brethren Retreat, Shipshewana Lake, Indiana, June 11th to 14th, 1956.

Rev. Smith Rose, vice moderator, brought the message on Monday evening using the Conference theme, "Deepening Wells of Faith."

The Conference Prayer periods were in charge of Rev. V. E. Meyer. Memorials were given for Rev. W. E. Ronk and other loved ones of congregations.

Rev. R. K. Higgins gave the Moderator's Address stressing, "There is a more excellent way."

Inspiring Bible lectures were given: "The Sovereignty of God" by E. M. Riddle; "The Message of 'Ecclesiastes' to the Brethren Church" by Henry Bates and "The Biblical Doctrine of Salvation" by C. A. Stewart.

There were 200 delegates, which included 173 lay anc 27 ministerial, reported at conference.

The following assessments were granted by Conferenc for the coming year: Sunday School Board—10c per en rolled Sunday School member; District Missions—50c pe capita church membership; Indiana District Conferenc Trustees—50c per capita church membership.

Those who attended were privileged to hear Rober Hoffman representing the Brethren Publishing Company Dr. Glenn Clayton of Ashland College and Seminary, anc Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bischof.

1957 Conference officers were elected as: Moderator— Smith Rose; Vice Moderator—A. H. Tinkel; Secretary Treasurer—G. B. Hanna; Ass't Secy.-Treas.—R. G. Hol singer; Statistician—H. E. Eppley.

REPORT OF PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE PENNSYLVANIA District Conference assembled in the Johnstown III Brethren Church, Monday evening, July 16th, at 7:45 for their 66th District Conference. At every service a fine audience met the speakers. Many people were heard to remark that this was the best attended Brethren Conference in our district for many years. Along with the spiritual showers we also experienced many physical showers as well. It was a conference long to be remembered by all those who attended.

A special thank-you is due to all the members of the host church for making every effort on their part to make it a success. All the meals but one were served in the church thus making it very convenient for the delegates. The Women's Missionary banquet was served in the Church of the Brethren just one block away. The music of the conference was very ably handled by two ladies from the host church. Mrs. John Golby serving as organist and Mrs. Merle Stutzman as song leader at all the sessions. Also appreciated were the many special numbers.

The first evening of Conference the Vice-Moderator, Rev. Horace Huse brought his message on the subject, "The Church As A Steward." He stated "Christian stewardship is what I do after I say I believe. Christ alone can be the measure of my stewardship. We desperately need to be converted from selfishness to a Christ-like spirit. What we do today determines the strength of the church tomorrow."

The Moderator, Rev. Lyle Lichtenberger, gave his address on the subject "Let The Church Be The Church." This address is to appear in **The Brethren Evangelist** and can be read by all.

A very remarkable thing during this conference was the very fine Brethren Youth Conference held daily in the Church of the Brethren. Never before had such a fine delegation of young people, from so many of our Brethren Churches, gathered together. This conference was directed by the Youth Board and very ably led by our new National Youth Director, Rev. Phil Lersch and his wife Another year with such a fine program it should bring even more of the Brethren young people to district conference. A very fine play was put on by the young people of the Johnstown III church. The Play, "For This Cause" was the story of the rich young ruler. The Brethren Youth speaker to the entire conference was Rev. Earl Fike of the Meyersdale Church of the Brethren. He used as his subject "The Pied Piper's Tune." He described the pied piper of today as beverage alcohol, a deceiver, a viper, a mocker. He asked "How close are we getting to the hole in the mountain? There are 70 passages against strong drink and 136 passages against drunkenness in the Bible. In Nassau Co., N. Y., in a high school survey 90% of the students drank occasionally, 75% started in the home. Moderation is not possible. It is a laugh. Beverage alcohol makes men more like beasts and less like God."

The fraternal relations address was given by Rev. D Alfred Replogle of the Roxbury Church of the Brethren He urged that we forget what is past and move ahead to those things before us, striving for a common ground

All the auxiliaries of the church had well planned programs. These were executed according to schedule. Special praise was given to the Sunday School Board for the very fine camp program of the district.

We were greatly blessed in having our missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bischof and their small daughter Barbara, in our midst. Their messages to the conference were very interesting and we trust they have stirred those who were there to go home and really progress in their mission giving.

The last message of the conference was brought b Rev. Bischof on the subject "Seed Time and Harvest. He stated "God's love wasn't for a city or race but fo the world. Preaching the gospel is an endless task. W are dead. We have failed in bearing seed for our Lor and need to hang our heads in shame. Can you be con tent to sit at home knowing another soul has been lost

Can you look God in the face knowing all the souls that have been lost, without Christ? Pray and pray for us as we go back to those 70,000 to 90,000 Higi people who have never heard."

The following officers were elected to serve the conference for the coming year. Moderator, Rev. Cecil Bolton, Jr., of Cameron, W. Va.; Vice-moderator, Rev. W. D. Keeling from Masontown; Secretary, Mrs. Elmer Keck, of Jones Mills; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Leona Wallace, from Sergeantsville, N. J.; Treasurer, Mr. John H. Glessner, of Berlin; Statistician, Miss Ida Kimmel, of Berlin. Next year's conference is to be held in Berlin.

We missed a number of people on our program this year who usually are there to represent the various agencies of the church, but their places were very ably filled by those sent in their places. Rev. Delbert Flora was the representative for Ashland College and Seminary. Rev. Robert Hoffman represented the Publication Board, and Jerry Flora the National Sunday School Board.

Mrs. Elmer M. Keck, Secretary.

What's Doing in the Churches

LOST CREEK, KENTUCKY

Riverside has again passed another high tide of doings. This began with the DVBS, one at Lost Creek, the other at Rowdy. The attendance under the circumstances was considered very good. At Rowdy an enrollment of 30, highest daily attendance 26. At Lost Creek, enrollment of 74, highest daily attendance 58. Both schools were conducted at the same time. From all appearances good work was done in all these schools, a very worth while thing.

These schools were followed by the annual camp at Riverside, with an enrollment of 48. The weather was fine, interest very good, and at the close of camp there were first time confessions and reconsecrations. The camp closed on a very high tone of spirituality, which we trust the young folks will carry with them.

The camp was then followed by our annual July 4th program. This was a very successful day, the weather very good, the attendance large, and the order first class. We begin the day with Bible reading, prayer, and the Star-Spangled Banner. This is followed by athletic contests, then addresses by prominent men, then the dinner hour under Riverside's fine shade, and the afternoon closing with ball games. A good day, much enjoyed by many people from as far as 160 miles away.

But this record of events would not be complete without giving the names of those who made it all possible, especially the DVBS and the Camp. Here it gives us pleasure to tell you of the coming of three Youth folks, who came to assist in these activities, sent by the Youth organization of the Brethren Church. They were Bonnie Swihart, Goshen, Ind., Susan Miller, Goshen, Ind. and Joan Rummel, Ashland, Ohio. These folks did splendid work in the schools and the camp, and their work and visit is much appreciated. Miss Margaret Lowery of Krypton, Ky., acted very efficiently as camp director. She also brought 28 Youth to the camp. My daughter, Ada, also helped in the school and camp. Rev. Eugene Mathews of Oakland, Md., who had been a teacher here one year, also was here. His visit was very helpful. The camp Evangelist was the Rev. Walt Handford of Wheaton, Illinois.

Mrs. Myrtle Kessinger of Haddix did most efficient help in the preparation of the meals, as did Mrs. Naomi Ratley of Mulvane, Kans. If ever the work has had a real Godsend, it was in the coming of Mrs. Ratley to manage the kitchen work through the summer months, and as the Lord leads further. She is doing mighty good work, and is very agreeable in her work. She also did good work through the camp week. We thank the Lord for her coming.

Thus the work at Riverside moves forward. The work on the buildings also progresses; the parsonage being about done, and the Administration Building with blocks all laid before you read this, windows in place and some of the roof on. It will be a very real help and credit to the work, the community, the county, and above all, a wonderful blessing to the work of the Lord at Lost Creek. The erection of the buildings is in charge of Brother Dorman Ronk, who is doing a good job at it.

Attendance and interest in the Sunday Services also holds up well. I preach three times a week; here, Sunday A. M., Rowdy, Sunday P. M., and at Haddix, Saturday night. We also have charge of two prayer meetings each, besides visitation work, etc.

G. E. Drushal.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

The members and friends of the Brethren Church, Cumberland, Maryland, called at the Manse, Monday evening, July 23rd, and surprised their pastor, the Rev. L. O. McCartneysmith, and his house guest, the Rev. D. C. White, of Hagerstown, Maryland who were spending their birthdays together.

They were later invited to the social rooms of the Church where delicious refreshments, with a birthday cake, were served. Both ministers were presented gifts, hymns were sung and an enjoyable evening was spent, after which all joined hands in a fellowship circle, singing, "Blest Be The Tie That Binds." The pastor closed the evening with a prayer.

It has been the custom of these Brethren through the years to get together for their birthdays, and have traveled many miles to do so. While serving pastorates in the Central District, Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Bell, of Milledgeville, Illinois, enjoyed these occasions with them, as Dr. Bell's birthday comes at the same time.

Rev. White has been invited by the Cumberland congregation to conduct a two weeks Evangelistic Campaign, beginning Oct. 7th, and has accepted.

Mrs. D. C. White.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

WHEN I'M ALONE

I'm not alone when I'm alone,
Fod God is nearest when
The world's shut out
With all its doubt;
I meet Him then.

I'm not alone when I'm alone,
And I am not sad;
My heart lifts, sings
Like swallow's wings,
And I am glad.

I'm not alone when I'm alone,
No matter what betide;
My days are brighter
My burdens lighter,
For He's my Guide.

I'm not alone when I'm alone,
Then I have time to spend
With God in prayer;
My all I share
For He's my Friend.

—Mary Senseney.

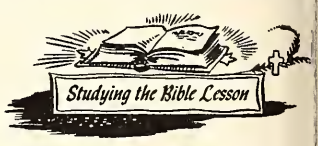
LET US, like our Master, retire awhile to solitude and give ourselves to meditation and prayer (Matt. 14: 23). "Seldom find we a soul still enough to hear God speak" (Psalm 46:10). We must take time to get ready for eternity (Psalm 90:12). This giddy world finds little enjoyment in moments of introspection, so unaccustomed are people to being alone with God and their own conscience (Psalm 5:5). There is more relish in the devotees of Pleasure than "delight in the law of the Lord" (1 Tim. 5:6). Many professed Christians are living poor, lean, unspiritual lives, without any real relish for God's Word, prayer, private meditation, self-examination and sweet communion with God (2 Sam. 13:4).

"In the secret of His presence,
How my soul delights to hide!
Oh, how precious are the lessons
Which I learn at Jesus' side!
Earthly cares can never vex me,
Neither trials lay me low,
For when Satan comes to tempt me,
To the secret place I go."

If one has ever drunk of the water of life (Psalm 34:9), he can never be satisfied without it (Psalm 42:1). "Our souls are restless until they find their rest in Thee" (Matt. 11:28, 29). Jesus is God's response to the soul's cry for "the living God" (John 4:13, 14). Blessed is the soul that thirsts for God (Matt. 5:6). If the soul exhausted on the husks of sin comes to itself, it resumes its normal attitude toward God and longs for the Father's house (Luke 15:16-19). Sweet are the songs of Zion t a heart that thirsts for God (Psalm 84:1), if such a on is deprived of the privilege of public worship (Psaln 84:2). How beautiful and inspiring is public worshi when Christians meet in a state of spiritual longin (Eph. 5:19; Psalm 113:1). No one could enter such a assembly without being brought consciously nearer to Go (1 Cor. 14:25). Private and family devotion in the hom will put new power and inspiration in the public worship and more thirsting for the living God (Psalm 42:4).

In private devotions pray for spiritual renewal, God' blessing, spiritual progress and joy, strength, obedience holy and right living, contrition and confession of sin for rulers, for purity, knowledge, mercy, grace, perse verance, meekness, trust, the Holy Spirit, others, etc.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson



Lesson for September 2, 1956

THE ROYAL LAW OF LOVE

Lesson: James 2:1-13

"GOD SHOWS NO PARTIALITY" (Acts 10:34—Wms.) How thankful we can be that this is so! God makes n distinction as does man between white and black, noble man and peasant, master and slave, or rich and poo He "hath made of one blood all nations of men for t dwell on all the face of the earth" (Acts 17:26).

In the second chapter of his Epistle, James speaks ou against a certain type of impartiality often manifeste by Christians—**undue deference toward the wealthy, wit a corresponding contempt for the poor.**

We hear it said that "money talks." How true! Th man who has the ability to flash a roll of bills can soo have everyone bowing before him. It is not strange tha such practices are common among the worldly. **But ho sad to find Christians with a perverted sense of valu concerning wealth!**

Without any hesitation James says it is impossibl for the Child of God to hold the faith of Jesus Christ and at the same time demonstrate respect for person When you do so, says James, "are ye not then partia in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?

We must be very cautious about making a distinctio between the rich and the poor. For the **rich** are not alway **rich**, neither are the **poor** always **poor!** What do w mean? "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not Go chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and hei of the kingdom which He hath promised to them tha love Him?" (James 2:5).

God would have us remember, then, that the rich ma so far as God is concerned, is not necessarily the ma with pockets full of silver and gold. **The man who is trul rich has his name written in the Lamb's Book of Lif he is a Child of the King; and some day, thank God, h**

will enter the gates of pearl, and walk the streets of gold!

To be able to always maintain a spirit of impartiality is not easy. However, there is a law by which God would have us govern our conduct in all these matters. The Royal Law of LOVE! Here it is: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (James 2:8).

If the Royal Law of LOVE would permeate the entire Church of Jesus Christ—yea, and the heart and life of every member of the Church—there would be no problem concerning respect of persons. The pastor would not be tempted to cater to the largest contributor in his congregation, or to those who favor him with gifts; the Church would be eager to embrace all who would enter her doors; and the individual members would be spiritually enriched because of a sincere and genuine demonstration of Godly Love one for another.

"O Eternal God, Thou who art the Giver of every good and perfect gift, be pleased to baptize Thy Church with the Spirit of Divine Love and Compassion, until every heart will glow with the radiance of Thy Being, and souls will come to a saving knowledge of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Amen!"

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of September

TOPIC—"GOD'S CONCERN FOR SINNERS"

1. THE NINETY AND NINE. Luke 15:1-7.

Publicans were tax collectors and, because they represented the Roman government and because many of them were dishonest, they were hated as a group. The sinners with whom Christ mingled were not necessarily only those who were living in sin according to the Mosaic laws, but could have been those who were heathens. When the Pharisees criticized Jesus for associating with these groups, Jesus justified his actions by telling the parable of the lost sheep. Here again we find evidence of the great importance God places upon each individual life.

In some ways we value life highly. In some ways we regard it cheaply. Do you think the shocking death toll through traffic accidents shows our indifference toward the value of the individual life?

2. THE FORGIVING FATHER. Luke 15:11-24.

According to early historians it has been "an immemorial custom in the east for sons to demand and receive their portion of the inheritance during their father's lifetime." This accounts for the willingness of the father to comply with the wishes of his youngest son. It seems that by so doing the father showed that he had complete confidence in his son and, therefore, must have been extremely disappointed and deeply hurt to discover how his son had squandered his money and fallen so low. Yet, in spite of everything that had happened, the father gladly received the repentant son who came asking forgiveness.

Do you see any similarity between the father's feeling toward the return of his son and verse seven?

Be sure to tell the Bible story about the prodigal son. It is possible that the group might also enjoy "acting out" the story if there is time.

3. THE BLESSEDNESS OF PARDON. Psalm 32:1-7.

Here the Psalmist tells us there are two parts to true blessedness: the remission of sin and the purification of the heart. He goes on to describe the heaviness of sin upon his heart before he found God's forgiving grace. Then he joyfully describes the wonderful transformation he experienced when he discovered "Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble."

Which do you think must come first in life—faith or pardon? Do you think a person can experience the blessedness of pardon without first having faith?

4. THE MERCIFUL FATHER. Psalm 103:8-14.

This is one of the most beautiful descriptions of the tenderness, mercies, and fatherly kindness of God which we have found anywhere in the Old Testament. Here God is pictured as a merciful, loving Father whose great understanding for us is revealed through his endless patience with our shortcomings. His mercy is described as PLENTEOUS. Although He gives mercies freely to all who seek them, His mercies shall never become exhausted.

In verse 14 we are given the simple reason why God shows such tender mercies for us. **He knoweth our frame.** Do you think we can show mercy and tenderness to others unless we try to understand them?

THE BEST TRANSLATION

FOUR CLERGYMEN were discussing the merits of the various translations of the Bible. One liked the King James Version best because of its simple, beautiful English.

Another liked the American Revised Version best because to him it seemed more literal and came nearer the original Hebrew and Greek.

Still another liked Moffatt's translation best because of its modern speech.

The fourth minister was silent. When asked to express his opinion, he replied, "I like my mother's translation best."

The other three expressed surprise. They did not know that his mother had made a translation of the Bible. "Yes, she did," he replied. "She translated it into life, and it was the most convincing version I ever saw."

—The Bible in New York.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

TRIP NOTES

THE ABOVE TITLE is not a new term either in musical circles or in the vocabulary of the Ambassador Quartet, although it does concern us four. Most of the delegates attending National Conference thought of their work as a trip away from home. But for the Ambassadors, it was a coming home to roost. We were glad to be back on A. C. campus, but before I digress further, let's sing a few of those trip notes (this is the kind you can't sing flat).

. . . The last you heard from us was after the service in Vinco.

. . . Chuck (the early riser who likes to go bird watching soon after the sun rises) and Marlin did manage to arise for breakfast by 10:30. I guess the more sleep Chuck gets the deeper bass he can sing.

. . . After dinner, Rev. Brant took us into Johnstown where we cut a couple tapes for his Sunday radio program. . . . It rained that night so we had to have the C. E. youth rally at Johnstown III Church instead of Amagh. Sorry there was no ball game, but we really enjoyed the spirit of the young people. Remember folks, the "animals-a-comin'."

. . . Having the run of the Stogsdill and Ambrose homes was appreciated. Mrs. Stogsdill made our shirts clean and we applied a fresh coat of wax to the station-wagon.

. . . Johnstown II: I like Rev. Cessna's idea of a nice "silent" offering.

. . . On to Jones Mills and Meyersdale: Horace and Joann Huse prepared for our coming very well. Staying at Gnagey's, who love to refinish old furniture, put us in the right frame of mind to practice some old favorites ourselves. Ummm, those waffles and chicken.

. . . Next day was Saturday, August 11, and we spent three hours hiking around Mt. Savage, becoming sunburned, and getting exercise, before traveling on to Cumberland.

. . . Fellowship supper with the Cumberland Brethren was great. It was good to meet Gene Abe, a young fellow who is a machinist by trade, who is considering coming to Ashland College to study for the ministry. I'm sure we'd like to have you, Gene. Rev. McCartneysmith pointed out to his people that we don't smell something from that black, circular object, but rather we get our starting pitch from it before each song. Real observing!

. . . We arrived late in Masontown after the Cumberland service, but were well cared for that night and also had good attendance Sunday morning for church.

. . . Thank you Rev. Bolton for the trip to Quiet Dell Church, fellowship supper, and a grand reception by the Cameron Brethren.

. . . Arrived in Ashland at 1:00 A. M., Monday morning of Conference week. It was good to get some sleep after reading one week's mail until two o'clock.

YOU REALIZE that all of these above mentioned things are only the sidelights. We feel that our messages, both in song and by word, have been well-received. The offerings in support of the European trip are most encouraging. Thanks be to God for his direction and protection, and thanks be to you, Brethren, for receiving the Ambassadors.

Till we meet again . . . We'll be . . .

August 27 .....Maurertown
August 28 .....Bethlehem
August 29 .....Mt. Olive
August 30 .....? (makes things interesting)
August 31 .....Terra Alta
September 1 .....Gratis
September 2 ..... Dayton (AM)
September 2 .....New Lebanon (PM)

CONFERENCE HIGH-LIGHTS

The actual date of this writing is Wednesday night of conference week. It's impossible to record everything that has happened, although the gathering is only 2 1/3 days old. Youth-wise, our activities began Monday night at 9:14 after the Vice-Moderator's address. Mr. Artie Gadfly presented his "home-show" with some very unusual talent. Included in this listing were Edie and Jean with commercials of the week's programs, Trudy and her golden vocal cords, Stogie with aids on sewing, and a descendant of Frank Buck with slides of a recent expedition. If you really want to know what this is all about ask someone who was there.

Tuesday morning DR. DRUSHAL reminded Brethren Youth that they were important when he spoke on "You." Then Wednesday he expanded and told us of our relationship and responsibility to the church. Those who aren't able to be here are missing some vital messages.

In PEP each day we are Preparing to Execute our Program. Plans are made each day for the work we have to do. This leads us into our workshops when different groups roll bandages, mend song books, arrange a talent show, write letters to our missionaries, plan decorations for the banquet, and sit in committee meetings. These are ways we can help others.

REV. HAROLD BARNETT leads us in a 10 minute prayer service daily when we pray definitely for Brethren Youth work. The strength and guidance received should be remembered when we return home. Pray a home for B. Y. each day. God answers your prayers, you know.

CHUCK and CONNIE (that's Huff and Hitchman, respectively) are weaving the entire program together with some fine hymn singing. Also several youth are contributing with devotions and specials regularly.

Those interested in crafts are using leather work, basket kits, gimp work, and decorating salt-pepper shakers. The trampoline and tumbling instruction, plus other recreational activities, have given our active ones plenty of exercise.

BUSINESS SESSIONS are active and constructive. Brethren Youth are promoting a new organization—th

BRETHREN YOUTH BOOSTER CLUB" which is for outh and adults alike. A minimum gift of one dollar entles you to receive a membership card and we hope hat many of you will "boost" with more than $1 per year. Iore about this next week, and the next, and the next...

THIS from our conference newspaper, "DAZE-NUZE." Congrats to the new Brethren Youth officers. They are:

President .....John Flora
VEEP .....Tom Johnson
Secretary .....Judy Chepes
Ass't Secy. .....Betty Meyers
Treasurer .....Marlin McCann
Statistician .....Lois Howard
Committee on Committees:
Chuck Huff
Bonnie Swihart
Susan Miller.

136 have registered thus far. 122 of these presented redentials and are official delegates to the conference. Keep up the good response. Bye now!

SNORING IS SHEET MUSIC

(This began speaking in musical terms, didn't it?)

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

"REACHING OUT"

"But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:13-14.

WE HAVE JUST FINISHED studying the wonderful works of Paul in our Sunday School lessons. What a challenge to all of us each lesson presented; a challenge to "Reach Out," giving ourselves for the winning of our fellow men.

I once read a Chinese legend which tells of a vase maker whose greatest desire was to make the most beautiful vase of all. He would fire his furnace to one degree of heat and then to another without success. Finally he gave up in despair and threw himself into the fire with the vase. Colors that had never been seen before came into the vase, and to the Chinese it still remains the wonder of the ages.

Jesus said, "He who loses his life for my sake shall find it." How this has been proven by the lives of great men and women, who gave themselves in service for others.

There are times that the person Jesus finds in us is a shifty, undependable, unreliable type. We only measure up "second best" because secondary matters seem to claim first place. But there is a "come back" in Christian service. All that we give into the lives of others and more comes back into our own.

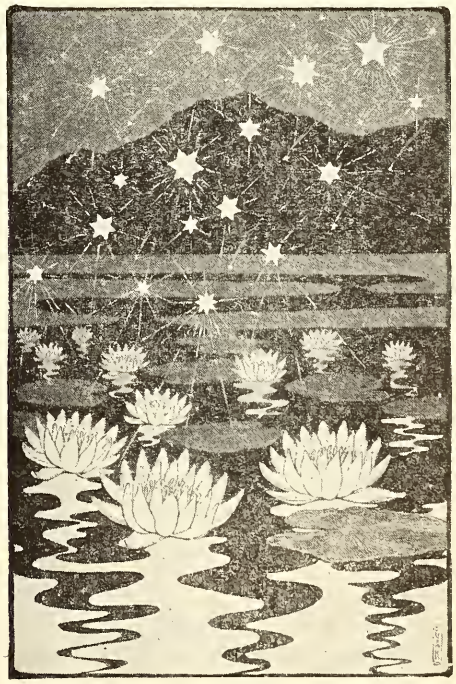
Toyohiko Kagawa, a Japanese missionary has written a poem, "Discovery," from "Songs From The Slums:"

I cannot invent
New things
Like the airship which sail,
On silver wings,
But today
A wonderful thought,
In the dawn was given,
And the stripes on my robe,
Shining from wear,
Were suddenly fair,
Bright with a light,
Falling from heaven—
Gold, and silver, and bronze,
Lights from the windows of heaven.
And the Thought was this:
That a secret plan
Is hid in my hand.
That my hand is big
Big,
Because of this plan.

That God
Who dwells in my hand,
Knows this secret plan
Of the things He will do for the world
Using my hand!

Using our hands to "Reach Out"—visit, give, share! Herein lies our challenge; looking to Christ, following him, and telling others about him.

Mrs. John Golby,
Johnstown, Penna.



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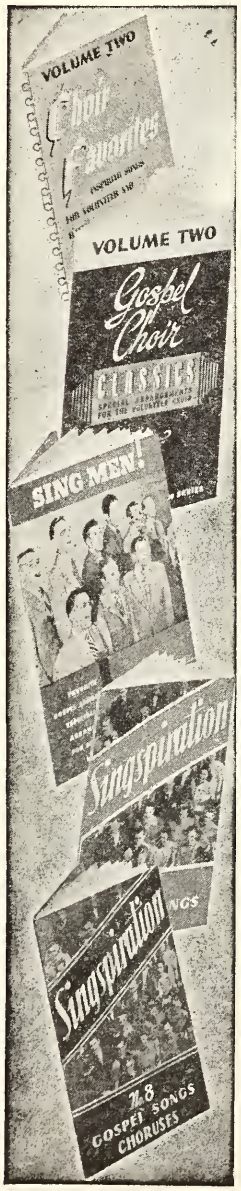
POPULAR Singspiration Song & Chorus BOOKS



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77 songs, choruses such as:

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It's in My Heart

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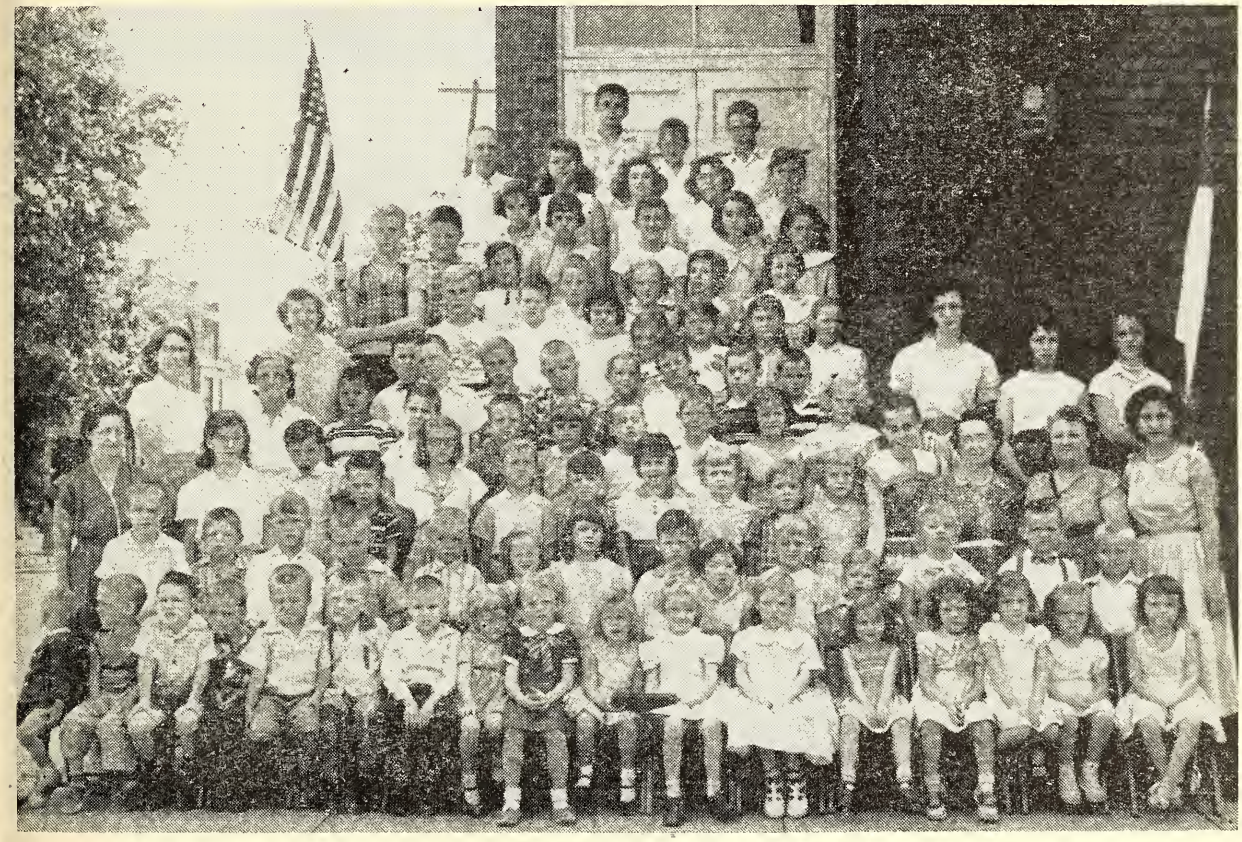

July 9-20, 1956

(Story on Page 10)

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Items of General Interest

CANTON, OHIO, TRINITY BRETHREN. Special speakers on August 19th were: Morning, Rev. W. T. Stebbins, of the First Christian Church; Evening, Rev. Rolland Reece, of the Niez E. U. B. Church.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates, in a recent bulletin, says: "We are all thrilled with the progress which is being made on our new Sunday School annex."

Work on the excavation was done the week of August 13th.

ELKHART, INDIANA. One new member was received by baptism on August 12th.

ATTENTION

BRETHREN ANNUAL INFORMATION

Attention of Conference Auxiliary and Board secretaries is called to the fact that the 1956 Edition of the Brethren Annual is in preparation. Those groups whose minutes regularly appear in this Annual are asked to send them immediately to the Editor of Publications.

Pastors who have changed residence, or who are anticipating a change in the near future, are asked to assure their correct listing in the Annual by dropping a post card to the Editor soon. By actual count, approximately 25% of our ministers have changed, or will be changing, since the last Annual was published. So, to be sure of a correct listing, drop the Editor a card.

This 'n' That

By the Editor

SINCE MOST OF THIS ISSUE is made up the wee following General Conference, with our bulletin r ceipts being low in number, we find our "Interestin Items" material in short supply.

We therefore take this opportunity to again sugge to our churches that all of you be sure to send in yo weekly church bulletins, regularly. News for the "Inte esting Items" column is gleaned from bulletins, nev notes and cards as received each week by the Editor. W suggest that you pencil, or check important items, ma ing it easier for the Editor to note them. Those item which in our judgment, are "General Interest News" w appear here.

With annual vacation here at the Publishing Compa the last two weeks in July, and the rush afterwards preparing for General Conference, plus holding up t Conference issue to include the listing of the new Co ference officers, and the mountain of work since the has made for a somewhat irregular mailing schedule f your **Evangelist.** In another week we hope to be back our regular schedule.

What suggestions do you have for your Church Pape During Conference week, we "picked up" a few go suggestions, and as feasible, will incorporate them ir the paper from time to time. The Publication Board h also done some long range planning for the Evangeli about which we will tell you at a later date. Su gestions that you may have can be placed in an envelo and mailed to the Editor of Publications.

A LAST MINUTE REMINDER:

THERE are still quite a few Sunday Schools which have not yet sent in their orders for the 4th Quarter supplies.

Last Quarter, some Sunday Schools did not order in time to receive their supplies for the first Sunday of the new Quarter.

August 15th is the date, when, to insure livery of all supplies, your order should have be in our office. So if your order is still not in, b ter mail it today, or your teachers will be w dering why their supplies are not delivered time for the new Quarter.

The Editor's Pulpit

It's Back To School Again

N A FEW DAYS, millions of American boys and girls will be starting back to school again, af-r having had, what to them probably seems to e, a rather short summer's vacation. More mil-ons of American children will be starting to chool for the first time. The first day of school or them will probably be a lasting memory; it ill at least never be forgotten by the parents.

Of all these children, many will enter our pub-c schools from Christian homes. Homes where arents are concerned about the welfare of their ffspring. These parents will be concerned about hat their boys and girls are going to be taught. hey will, through the year, maintain what vigi-nce they can in this matter of what their boys nd girls are learning in school. Other parents ill give little or no thought to what their chil-ren will be learning—passing the job on to the ublic servants known as school teachers.

It is our wish that more Christian parents ould be more concerned with what their children re learning. It used to be that much of the public chool curriculum centered around the Bible—at east the Bible and its teachings were kept in mind n the school room. But now, this nation, which rew great under the Bible-taught and Bible-prac-ced precepts in the school room, has now largely orsaken that sacred heritage in modern class ooms. Thus it does become a matter of con-ern on the part of Christian parents as to what heir children are receiving in the public school ass room.

Because a child, during the winter months, pends a very high percentage of waking hours the class room, it is certain that his or her eacher exerts much influence in moulding char-cter, attitudes and futures. A Christian teach-r, without "teaching religion," (which of course "forbidden"), can, in a moment of confiding n the part of a child, plant in the child's heart a thought, an admonition, or a suggestion from her own Christian experience, which to that child will become a life-long guide-post. Teachers will testify that "moments of confiding" by children during a 180 day school year are often more than a few. So, we see that parents can well be concerned as to who has the "teaching power" over their children. If Christian influence at the desk of the school room is missing, the responsibility of Christian parents toward the moral, social and religious needs of their children is greatly multiplied. This fact we must face.

Whatever the situation at school, no parent, yes, no Christian parent, can shove the moral, social and religious training of their children onto the public school teacher. First, last and always, that training is a MUST in the home! Well trained Christian children can carry their Christian influence into the school room where it will do much good. It even will receive strength from a Christian school teacher; at least it won't be negated by a non-christian teacher.

While we would like to see all the public school teachers of America Christian (for Christian principles are the basis of American democracy in its purest sense) YET OUR GREATEST CONCERN RIGHT NOW is that when your children start another year of school this week, it will be with the strength of Christian home training in their hearts. Is that too much to ask of Christian parents? We must be concerned, as Christian parents, about what our children are being taught, yes, but we must be certain that we have done our home training well, too.

Yes, it's back to school again for another year. Beyond the Christian training you have given your children in your home, you can send them each day to school with your prayers and can listen receptively to what they have to say when they come home at night. We owe that to our children.—W. S. B.

Moderator's Address 1956 Pennsylvania District Conference

LET THE CHURCH BE THE CHURCH

Rev. Lyle I. Lichtenberger

Part I

MY DEAR BROTHERS and Sisters in Christ: this year your Conference Executive Committee has chosen as our Conference Theme—"To Serve the Present Age." It was not our purpose to suggest that we have no responsibility for the future ages, but that how we serve the present age will determine the well-being of the future.

Our conference text explains what I am trying to say in these words: "I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work." There is a job to do now. There is work that must be done now. In recent years the criticism has been made of the church, or perhaps it would be better to say Church members, that it—or they—are too much interested in the other world to do much work in this one. I have also heard said that communist forces are not worried about the church forces in the United States, for as long as our only interest is in the next world we can hurt their cause very little, for they don't believe in the next world anyway. At one time the church boasted the fact that "the boy who attended Sunday School never was sent to Reform School," but no longer can we say it since this year's crime statistics seem to show that it makes very little difference at all.

I must agree that not one of these criticisms is wholly correct. But it does show that the church has a tendency to run from present responsibility and hide its head in its traditions, and then wonder why the world has passed it by.

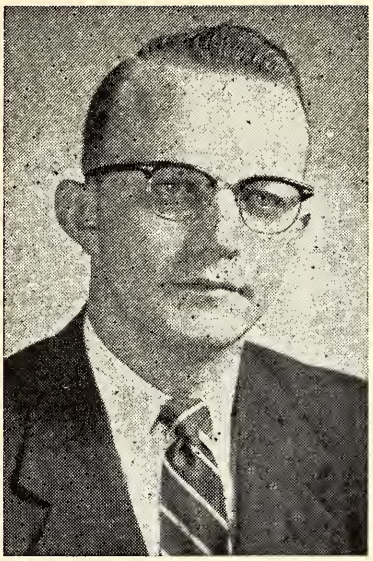
It is not my purpose to enter into a weighty discuscussion on what the church is or is not, but I would like to make a few simple observations and recommendations.

First of all, let's begin with a few things concerning which I am sure we all agree—

Number One—The Church is Christ's—"Upon this roc I will build 'My' Church" were the words of Christ t His disciples. Although we all like to speak personal as this or that church being "ours," yet I am sure v all agree that The Church is Christ's church and not our We make ourselves a part of His church by acceptir Him and His way. The work at hand to be done by tl Church and each individual local church must be H work. John 17:18—"As thou hast sent me into the worl even so have I also sent them into the world." For wh purpose was He sent? Luke 4:18-19—"The Spirit of t Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to prea the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal t brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, a recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty the that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of t Lord." It seems to me we have stated here the work the church and the work of the present age. Are we the job? Partially, yes—but I am sure you will agr it is perhaps more by accident than by the carryi through of any real planned program.

Number Two—I am sure we agree that: because group of people organize and call themselves a chu no more guarantees that they are the Church of Je Christ than a man calling himself a lion or moose mal himself a lion or moose. Ministers and laymen alike m awaken to the present situation and be concerned. are not here to tell God what to do but to just rep for duty. Our prayers too long have been from hea already molded by our own prides. We pray that may bless the works of our hands,—instead we sho pray that the works of our hands may be worthy of

(Delivered at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, July 17, 19



REV. LYLE I. LICHTENBERGER

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lessing. "We are His only when we do what He has commanded us to do."

Number Three—I am sure we all agree that the easy-going attitude which is so visible in our churches finds little comparison either in the first century church or in the early years of our own particular denomination. The Church of Jesus Christ is not engaged in child play. The attitude in much of the church today is that if a generation is brought up within the church it will inherently be Christian. True, it does help, but each generation must be evangelized anew. We must have personal evangelism today right in our churches. The mass effort like revivals, Bible studies, etc., do little to reach those on the fringes with any type of real commitment.

We are learning today, as much as any generation has, what real heresy is. Some would have us believe that all we need is a re-emphasis of our particular and peculiar Brethren Doctrine. I do share with them their concern over the ignorance of our people in our particular Brethren beliefs, but I feel we miss the mark if we think that these particular beliefs will alone make a man a Christian.

The heresies to which I am referring are those of spiritual discipline, stewardship and growth. Let's not fool ourselves, Brethren, our own forefathers were concerned about how the individual expressed his Christian experience. I suspicion they were even more concerned with a man's relationship to his God than how he was baptized, though I do not mean to minimize the latter. What I am trying to say is, that to those of you who feel we need to re-emphasize our Brethren position, let's get to the basic problems and heresies.

And now if you will bear with me I would like to get definite. I do so, realizing that here we shall get into disagreements, but unless we talk about particular matters we will accomplish little.

First of all, let's look at this business of personal discipline. There is little that can be done with this matter on a district level. It must be done in the local church and by each of its members. A district can be no stronger than its individual churches and those churches can be no stronger than their individual members.

It has been my observation that the only effort our average church member makes towards any type of Christian experience is to attend Sunday morning worship services as regularly as is convenient and have a blessing at the meal. In reference to the latter, I was never more surprised and disappointed than one experience I had while I was yet in college. After returning from an a cappella choir trip through the East, one of the choir members made the observation that, having stayed in six Brethren homes, he never once heard the blessing offered at a meal. I pray this was an exception—I fear it was not.

Recently I was reading the materials given out by the Yokefellows, which is an interdenominational laymen's movement. The Yokefellows have the following listed as a "Minimum Discipline."

"As one who seeks to submit his will to the will of Christ, I humbly undertake to wear His Yoke in the following ways:

1. To pray every day, preferably at the beginning of the day.
2. To read reverently and thoughtfully, every day, a portion of Scripture, following a definite plan.
3. To share, at least once each week, in the public worship of God.
4. To give a definite portion of my annual income to the promotion of the Christian Cause.
5. To devote a specific portion of my time to ministering to the needs of others.
6. To strive to make my daily work a Christian vocation.
7. To develop my mental powers by careful reading and study."

I am sure you will agree these are all necessities to our church members, and it seems to me to be but a minimum. But Brethren, how many of our members measure up to the minimum? It is not just an individual and personal problem. In our type of government, where each member has a firm voice,—in which I firmly believe—these people who make little effort if any to grow spiritually, control our churches. Sure, they are seldom there to vote, and they are in the minority in the official positions of our churches, but nevertheless they are the ones who high-pressure the work of the church—for our official boards and ministers alike (I too am guilty) are all prone to scratch their backs to keep them happy. In reality, when we do it we are part and parcel of their sin. We encourage it when we tolerate it. We'll say more about this later. Now don't get me wrong. I am not advocating roll revision or putting them on an inactive roll—that's the easy way out. Rather get to work! Don't permit them to kid themselves into hell. Either they have a definite relationship with their God or they do not. Either they "know He lives because He lives within their hearts" or then sin is still in them.

We are turning to another of the heresies within our

(Continued on Page 7)

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

MBORORO — HIGI STATION

Progress is being made on the construction of buildings at the Mbororo Station according to Charles M. Bieber, Assistant Field Secretary. A well has been dug, and two round houses, one for the storage of supplies and another as living quarters for the builder, have been erected. Jim Bowman, just back from furlough, will resume the construction work, putting down the foundation for the first permanent residence.

BIBLE SCHOOL PROGRESSES

A Bible School for the training of more and better trained Bible students was opened at Garkida, Nigeria in March 1956 with approximately twenty students enrolled. This is a joint project of the Mission and the Nigerian Church. The Nigerian Church is supplying two pounds ($5.00 American equivalent) per student while the mission is supplying staff, classroom, boarding quarters, supplies and medical care.

Our Brethren Church is sharing in this Bible School work by supplying funds for books, supplies, living quarters and medical care. It is evident that this program will strengthen the local churches in Nigeria and also the outreach of these local congregations.

LEPROSY VICTIMS

Believed incurable through the ages, Hansen's disease or leprosy has brought to its sufferers extreme persecution.

To give medical attention and to meet other basic needs of those afflicted, the Garkida Leprosarium was established in Nigeria in 1929, staffed by Brethren missionaries. Now nearly 800 patients reside on this 2,500 acre farm colony, divided into villages for each language group. New drugs made possible the dismissal of 496 cases during a year's time.

While at the leprosarium patients cultivate small farms, attend school and receive vocational training. Through an active church program three of every four patients are baptized or covenanted Christians upon discharge.

Up to sixty babies are born annually in the leprosarium. Usually they are separated from their parents to avoid almost certain infection. The general mission hospital cares for a majority of the infants until the mothers' afflictions are arrested—Gospel Messenger.

DEDICATION OF ORGAN — ARGENTINA

A recent cable from Robert Byler stated that the new Hammond electric organ, sent to Buenos Aires for the radio studio in the Headquarters Building, was dedicated recently.

The organ, a Hammond console Model M-3, was purchased by the Missionary Board through a New York church agency and shipped to Buenos Aires the latter part of May. It will be used in supplying music for the radio programs and for the church services at Nunez as well.

KRYPTON EVANGELISTIC SERVICES

Kenny Howard is conducting evangelistic services at the mission in Krypton, Kentucky. He is being assisted in these services by his sister, Miss Lois Howard, of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Lois will provide special music on her marimba and also direct the congregational singing. Miss Margaret Lowery is in charge of the work at Krypton.

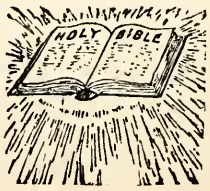
BRETHREN VISIT KENTUCKY MISSION POINTS

There have been many Brethren people and friends who have visited the mission points at Lost Creek and Krypton this summer. We are glad for so many visitors because we know that now there are more people who better understand both the opportunities and the needs in these two Kentucky mountain areas.

The Missionary Board is aware of these opportunities and needs, and is attempting to take advantage of the opportunities and to supply the needs as circumstances and finances permit.

LOST CREEK TIMBER BEING CUT

The oak, poplar, hickory and other valuable timber trees covering the hill on the farm at Lost Creek are being cut for lumber. Dorman Ronk, assisted by local experienced men, is supervising this work for the Missionary Board. A mill has been set up on the premises and the sawing will be done there. Some of the lumber will be sold locally and some will be shipped out. The proceeds will be used in the building program at Lost Creek.



1956 SUMMER CAMP REPORT

Jerry Flora

DURING JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church (formerly The National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church) sponsored camps in six districts throughout the denomination.

A total of 871 Brethren young people participated in these camps—an increase of 6% over last year, and an increase of 25% over the attendance four years ago.

The number of campers by districts this year was as follows:

Camp Pinnacles (Southeast District)	116
Camp Juniata (Pennsylvania District)	125
Camp Zion (Ohio District)	189
Camp Shipshewana (Indiana District)	327
Camp Blackhawk (Central District)	73
Camp Wyandotte (Midwest District)	41

There are several encouraging signs in the 1956 camp report: (1) Camp Shipshewana added a fifth week to its schedule to care for the increase in Intermediates. (2) Camp Blackhawk had a 25% increase in attendance, the largest in all the camps (3) The camp program as a whole has been increasing steadily for the past several years (see below). (4) The number of spiritual decisions made by campers has increased proportionately.

Here are the total camp attendances from 1952 through 1956:

1952	698
1953	697
1954	742
1955	820
1956	871

It is obvious from these figures that more and more Brethren young people are taking advantage of the opportunities to be found in Brethren summer camps.

This is another of the encouraging signs abroad today in our church. The increasing camp program should be considered along with the new work of Brethren Youth, the enlarged program of the Missionary Board, the expansion of Ashland College and Seminary, and the renewed emphasis on Sunday school work in the denomination. The Brethren Church is on the march! The young people in camp today are the church of tomorrow. What kind of church will it be?

LET THE CHURCH BE THE CHURCH

(Continued from Page 5)

midst. I am referring to the deplorable stewardship habits of our people. What makes it a heresy to me is that the majority never once consider there is any relationship between their stewardship and their spiritual life. Since we have briefly looked at the stewardship of time and talent within our discussion on spiritual discipline, I would like to turn to our stewardship of possessions.

Let's set this point straight before we start—I am not talking about money. I am speaking of selfishness, covetousness and the pride of possessions.

One false concept we must meet and deal with in every church is that the preaching of the stewardship of possessions has no right behind the pulpit. Now, I am sure no minister wants to preach money, but covetousness is one sin we dare not neglect. As we look at our statistics for this year we see that we now have a membership (in our District) of 2,474, and a total giving of $125,418, which amounts to approximately $50 per year per member—less than one dollar per week.

Our condition is much like the pastor who said, "Certainly all my members tithe, but I certainly can't see how they get along on $10 per week income." Now let me ask you this—what would you conclude the Spiritual condition of this district to be, if you were Moderator of this conference, when the average gift per member per week is less than one dollar? Tell me—are we not covetous?

What is a dollar worth in these days? And yet we expect our Lord to keep His kingdom going and growing on less than one dollar a week. The pitiful thing in my estimation is that we are not only tolerating it but encouraging it by our financial programs in our local churches. I make this statement after making the following observations—

(1) By and large—our average church leaves the work of the Lord to chance. How far would any organization or business get if it waited till the last minute to do its planning? If it had no over all policy? How many of our churches really plan for the future? Has your official board decided together what kind of a church they want a year from now? or even in three months? are they satisfied with what they are now? do they just plan a month at a time? How far along do you think the redemption of our souls would be if it were left to chance? Our redemption was planned every step of the way from the foundation of the world. But we leave the work of the Kingdom to chance. We don't like the word evolution but we expect our churches to somehow, undirected, evolve into a glorious church. Paul says, "Let all things be done decently and in order." Paul knew and so do all of us, laymen and ministers alike, that God has a plan for His church and chance has no place in it.

(Concluded in September 15th issue.)

ORDINATION SERVICES FOR JOHN MILLS held at the ST. JAMES, MARYLAND, BRETHREN CHURCH, Sunday evening, July 22, 1956

Rev. Freeman Ankrum (left) and Rev. James E. Ault, lay the hands of the Elders upon Ministerial Candidate, John Mills, during Ordination Service.

ORDINATION SERVICES for John Mills, a member of the St. James, Maryland, Church, were held Sunday evening, July 22, 1956 in the St. James Church.

Following is the program of the evening:

Prelude .....Miss Lois Norris
Invocation .....Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Pastor, St. James Brethren Church
Hymn: "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"
Purpose and Authority .....Rev. James Ault, Pastor, Hagerstown Brethren Church
Scriptures .....Rev. Ault
Questions .....Rev. Ankrum
Prayer of Consecration, Laying On of Hands
Charge .....Rev. Ankrum
Special music by the Quintette
Benediction .....Rev. John Mill

Rev. Freeman Ankrum is Chairman of the Ministeria Examining Board of the Southeastern District of th Brethren Church; Rev. James Ault is a member of th Board.

Rev. John Mills is preaching full time at the Leetowi West Virginia, Church of the Brethren, and lives at 12 Randolph Ave., Hagerstown, Maryland.

RALPH E. MILLER ORDAINED Sunday July 8, 1956 at the College Corner Brethren Church

ORDINATION SERVICES for Ralph E. Miller, a member of the College Corner, Indiana, Brethren Church, were held in the College Corner Brethren Church, the afternoon of July 8, 1956.

The program follows:

Prelude .....Joyce and Marvin Stout
Reading of Credentials .....Rev. G. Bright Hanna
Hymn: "Held by My Saviour's Mighty Hand"
Scripture and Prayer .....Rev. Claud Studebaker
Vocal Solo—"To All the World".....Mrs. Richard Prie
The Sermon .....Rev. A. H. Tink
Interrogation of Candidate .....Rev. Hann
Consecration Prayers ....Rev. Tinkel, Rev. Studebak
Charge to the Candidate .....Rev. Hanr
Hymn: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"
The Benediction
The Postlude

Ralph E. Miller, was born near Cerro Gordo, Illinoi and moved to Wabash County, Indiana, in 1914. He the nephew of the late W. S. Baker, a former minist in the Brethren Church.

He was given a call by the College Corner Brethr Church on May 14, 1956 to become an ordained Elde An application for ordination was filed with the Indiai District Ministerial Examining Board. Favorable acti of the Board was taken on June 6, 1956.

He is married and the father of two sons, Warner a Ralph.

Dying From Natural Causes

'T HAS BEEN SAID, "The prayer-meeting is dying - from natural causes." To which some one well replies: Of course. Grant for a moment it is dying, the pity is hat it is from 'natural causes.' This should be a sum- ions to the profoundly religious to cover themselves with ack-cloth and ashes. Many good things die from natural auses. Most things die a natural death. What is more atural than worldliness and sin? Churches die from nat- ral causes. Family altars fall into ruins and family orship ceases from natural causes. Is it good that these ings die, because, forsooth they die from natural auses? An orphanage catches fire from natural causes; fty children burn to death from natural causes. Have rphanages therefore outlived their usefulness? Are chil- ren, therefore, not to be loved and cared-for? Is it the uty therefore, of benevolent orphanage managers to ap- oint a committee to look for a 'substitute' for children? s a matter of fact the prayer-meeting is no more dying han our heavenly religion is dying. It is only dying here nd there, where there is not enough vital religion in the earts of the people and in the churches to keep it alive. n particular instances the love of the world kills the rayer meeting. 'The world, the flesh and the devil' are s sworn enemies."

ADVANTAGES OF THE WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

Instead of losing importance in the mind of Christians, houghtful men and women are putting increased em- hasis upon the weekly meetings for prayer and confer- nce. Why? What are the advantages to be gained that ive the prayer meeting so much importance?

I. What are the advantages to us as individuals? For ne thing, we have all learned that our spiritual life is ke a watch—very liable to run down. We feel the need f this new start in the middle of the week. It is like n oasis of rest and refreshment on the dusty highway.

There is great value, too, in having acquaintance with ne another's spiritual life, such as is gained from the rayers and exchange of experiences at such a meeting f free and devotional character. If we never met except n the formal worship of the great congregation, how nuch we would lack in the way of knowledge of spirit- al living, sympathy in each other's struggles, and of heer for going on. Mutual song and prayers and testi- nony remove dejection, lighten burdens, give new trength, fortify against temptation, rekindle faith and ove and bring God down afresh into our lives. There s great advantage also in the knowledge of the Bible truth gained and in the answers God sends to your prayers.

Aside from the religious value, probably few estimate as highly as they ought the educational and social value of such gatherings. It can have no little educational value for people to meet week after week and exchange high thoughts on themes of utmost interest. There is no little musical education gained as we sing together and learn to sing better. There are social advantages from meeting in the more informal family gathering of the church; delightful acquaintanceships are formed and friends are knit heart to heart. The spiritual advantages, of course, should always have uppermost place in our consideration, but these other are real and valued results that accrue from the weekly gatherings for prayer.

II. What are the advantages to a church? One thing such a meeting does of value is to set a higher ideal before those who do not attend. As long as such a meeting is regularly held and any are willingly not among those who gather, they have a reminder of a possible growth in grace not yet attained that would enable them also to enjoy such meetings.

It also gives the church a chance to estimate its real spiritual condition. The prayer meeting is the pulse of the church. It is the spiritual thermometer of the church. It is possible, from the prayer meeting, for those having the church's interest at heart to know the spiritual temperature and act accordingly.

Another advantage of the prayer meeting to the church is that it trains workers. It has well been called "Church Training Night." We learn to work by working. We learn to speak by speaking. We learn to pray by praying. The prayer meeting is a training school for Christian effort. Its attendance are the Gideon's band of every church.

It also gives impulse. Christians not only learn how to work, but are impelled toward Christian effort. The prayer meeting is the power-house of the church, the place where Christians get charged with the dynamic force of the Gospel and then go out to bring things to pass in the kingdom.

It brings God's blessing down upon the church. It is the place where many revivals have started. In answer to the united prayers of God's people he has sent copious showers of saving and reviving grace. It needs the ascending vapor of evaporation for showers. So is prayer God's ordained means to spiritual blessing.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, BRETHREN CHURCH HOLDS 27th ANNUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

(PICTURE ON PAGE ONE)

THE CO-OPERATIVE Brethren Church of Columbus, Ohio, held its Daily Vacation Bible School from July 9 to 20. This was the twenty-seventh consecutive year that we have conducted a Vacation Bible School here in Columbus. Our total enrollment was 104, with 92 boys and girls and 12 workers. The average attendance was 92. We have always been pleased with the regular attendance throughout the two weeks of the school.

Our school gave its closing program on Friday evening, July 20. The church was filled with the children, their parents, and friends. One of the features of the closing program was the showing of colored slides of the school, of each class, and of the children at work. The teachers in turn gave the names of the pupils as the pictures of their class were shown.

Our Vacation Bible School is a big event in the lives of the children of our Sunday School and Church community. They plan on it from one year to the next. During the school the children and the workers brought offerings from day to day for our missionary and relief projects. We ask a continued interest in your prayers for our work for the Lord in Columbus.

D. R. Murray,
495 Tibet Rd.,
Columbus 2, Ohio

North Manchester, Indiana, Brethren Church, Begins Construction of Sunday School Annex

(The following article appeared in the North Manchester News Journal.)

CONTRACT was signed last Monday evening by the trustees of the First Brethren Church with John Pugh of Rochester, general contractor, for the erection of an educational annex to the present church structure. The meeting Monday evening followed a congregational meeting which instructed the trustees to enter into a contract with Mr. Pugh.

Early in February the congregation gave its approval to tentative plans drawn by the building committee, and since that time numerous meetings have been held and several trips made by members of the committee to other church buildings. With an average Sunday school attendance of 224 for the past year, the need for more space to house the growing school became acute.

The new building, seventy feet long and forty feet wide, will be constructed of brick, two stories high, and joined to the present church. The only wood in the building will be the doors, making it practically fireproof. Included in the new structure will be fourteen Sunday school rooms, a pastor's study, an office for Sunday school secretary, rest rooms, a storage room, and th furnace room.

The classrooms are being so arranged that the variou departments will be able to gather for a worship perio and then divide by sound proof, modernfold doors int smaller classes. One section is planned for the cradle ro and nursery departments.

The building will be heated with hot water, bas board radiation, fired with oil. The new boiler will b large enough for both the new addition and the prese church building. Another feature in the annex will be large choir room with direct access to the choir loft the sanctuary.

Work on the building began within ten days, and scheduled for completion within 120 days. The total co will approximate $52,000. An every member finance car paign is headed by Clarence Kindley, and includes Ma Dickerhoff, Harry Mishler, Harry Olinger, Ralph War and Arden Ayres.

The building committee is composed of Oman Harr chairman; Wayne Ruse, Dorsey Brandenburg, Ross Brine and Paul Frey, with the pastor, the Rev. Henry Bate as an ex-officio member.

The Sustaining Power Of Faith

Mrs. Edna Nicholas

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped or, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 1:1.

VERY LITTLE EXPLANATION is given in the scriptures of the nature of faith. Howver, they insist on the necessity of having faith. 'he scriptures also show how faith and salvaion are inseparably linked.

Sacred writers use it in a common meaning, s though all understood.

If you know what is meant by faith in a promse, you know what is meant by faith in the Gosel. If you know what is meant by a remedy, you vill know what is meant by the Blood of Jesus Christ.

The Christian graces—faith, hope and love—re found together in one package. We cannot hink of hope without faith in the object of our ove. If hope and love are wanting in your faith, ou have no evidence you are a Christian.

To be a Christian, there must be a full deelopment of all these graces. They give beauty nd harmony to Christian living; no other religon can do this.

Our text teaches three truths. First, the things oward which faith is directed are invisible—'Things not seen."

Second, that some of the invisible things are lesirable, and attainable—"things hoped for."

Third, that the invisible things which we deire are attainable—faith makes powerful in our ives—"evidence of things not seen."

It is not hard to have faith in something we an see and touch, but to accept the unseen, reuires real faith—faith accepts the unseen as if t were seen. Faith in the invisible led Noah o build the ark. Faith in the invisible hand led Abraham up the mountain to sacrifice his son. 'aith in the invisible made it possible for the hree Hebrew children to pass through the fiery urnace. Faith in the invisible led John, the Baist, to the block. Faith in the invisible led Paul o prison.

Have you ever paused long enough to realize hat all human actions are based on faith? The armer would not plow and sow, if he did not ave faith that he would reap a harvest. The nerchant would not open his store if he did not have faith that he would sell his goods. Faith in his plane and equipment sends the pilot high in the skies.: Faith in his mighty ship and compass sends the captain and his crew out on the mighty deep. Faith controls the actions of men —without it, the world enters into confusion.

Faith leads you to work—it is a living, acting principle, coupled with love, repentance, and obedience.

The beginning of faith is the Word of God—it rests on Divine Truth and grows through Divine influence. We must know Christ—we must believe in Him if we hope to live with Him. The most blessed hope comes from the faith not seen. Faith in the absent Christ means greater spiritual growth than if He walked among us. Thomas believed when he saw Christ—when he saw the wounds in His side, and the prints of the nails in His hands. Our real test is believing without seeing and touching the wound of Christ. Faith leads us to accept Him—to believe in Him—to love and obey Him as though we had seen and walked with Him.

Christian faith obtains pardon, it purifies, it is obedient, it overcomes the world, and triumphs in death. "O death, where is thy sting; O grave, where is thy victory?"

There is nothing in man so beautiful as the sustaining power of faith in God—faith in His Son, and faith in eternal life which Christ promises and inspires. Those of the Christian faith possess a composure and triumph no other religion posesses. It shed light on the tomb and looks forward to the morning of resurrection. It welcomes the judgment hour—it is the fullfilment of all hopes.

To have and to hold faith in God, faith in His Son and eternal life is the highest of which the human soul is capable. It is the triumph of the Divine in man. A French veteran, who had served under Napoleon, was asked, "Did Napoleon's men like him?" "Like him," he exclaimed, "We believed in Him; if he would have said, 'Go to the moon,' every man would have started!"

We have a Commander greater than Napoleon. Obey His commands—He will lead the way. "Kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation."

Elkhart, Indiana.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

There's a holy, high vocation
  Needing workers everywhere;
'Tis the highest form of service,
  'Tis the ministry of prayer.

No one need stand idly longing
  For a place in which to share
Active service for the Master;
  There is always room in prayer.

In these days of tribulation,
  Wickedness pervades the air,
And the battles we engage in
  Must be won through fervent prayer.

There's no weapon half so mighty
  As the intercessors bear;
Nor a broader field of service
  Than the ministry of prayer.

Do you long to see the millions,
  Who are perishing today,
Snatched as brands plucked from the burning?
  Do you long yet seldom pray?

Are you longing for revivals
  In the good old-fashioned way?
We must use old-fashioned methods—
  Which have always been to pray.

"Is the worldliness appalling
  That within your church is seen?
Are you grieved, yet, at the Throne,
  Ne'er for the weak ones intervene?

Do you long to meet the Savior
  And your loved ones in the air?
You may hasten Christ's returning
  By effectual, fervent prayer.

Join us in the plea that Jesus
  Quickly will His bride prepare;
May His coming find us faithful
  In the ministry of prayer.

Come and join the intercessors!
  Laurels, then, some day you'll wear;
For there is no higher service
  Than the ministry of prayer.

—Poem by Annie Lind Woodworth.

WE MUST HAVE PRAYER TO HAVE POWER. The model church in The Acts believed in the Prayer Meeting because ALL were there (Acts 1:13-15), and ALL prayed (Acts 1:14). They had a definite aim in prayer (Acts 1:4, 5). They prayed for their needs (Acts 1:24, 25; 4:29, 30). They HAD answers to prayers (Acts 2:4; 4:31). They HAD a revival with a multitude (Acts 2:5) that heard the message (Acts 2:8-11), RECEIVED the message (Acts 2:37), and was BAPTIZED and JOINED the church (Acts 2:41).

"THE PRAYER MEETING IS THE PULSE OF THE CHURCH." Pentecost began with a prayer meeting. Set apart one hour each week, sacred to the Prayer Meeting for the rest and refreshment of your own soul (Mark 6:31). Plan, pray, study for the Prayer Meeting for your spiritual edification (1 Cor. 14:26). Take your Bible and a friend for better Christian acquaintance (Malachi 3:16), mutual encouragement (Heb. 10:25), Christ's promised presence (Matt. 18:19, 20), and helpfulness to the pastor (Eph. 6:18, 19). Always put something into the Prayer Meeting for an increase of faith (John 20:26-29), for the conversion of unbelievers (1 Cor. 14:24, 25), and for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in song and prayer (1 Cor. 14:15).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for September 9, 1956

THE SOURCE OF HUMAN CONFLICTS

Lesson: James 3:4-5; 4:1-12

THERE IS TOO WIDE a gap between Christia **Faith** and Christian **Living**. We **believe** on the leve of the mountain peak, but **live** on the level of the valle The Writer James would say there ought to be more co sistency in the Christian Life. The Man of God wh possesses genuine faith in Jesus Christ must reveal tha faith by the performance of consistent Christian acts an deeds. "Even so faith, if it hath not works is dead, bein alone" (James 2:17).

This proneness to inconsistency—this human confli raging within—this restlessness of spirit—call it wh you will—is the cause of much of the trouble in the wor today. The Christian very soon recognizes that within h heart there exists a spiritual struggle. He confesses himself: "The good that I would I do not: but the ev which I would not, that I do . . .O wretched man that am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death (Rom. 7:19, 24).

The ungodly man, when he sees unrest and confli asks himself this question: "What can I do to stop this But James realizes it is not enough to simply stop t conflict if the **source** or **cause** of the conflict is not u covered.

The story of Uncle Rasmus will illustrate this poi After a period of repeated backsliding in his Christi experience, Rasmus ran to the altar and poured out h heart in repentance before the Lord. "O Lord," he cri "Take the cobwebs out of this old heart of mine!" Au Mirandy, his spiritually-wise wife, stood behind him a prayed out: "O Lord, kill that old spider!"

"From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?" Do not look **without** for the source of your trouble—the trouble comes from **within!**

The cause? "Your lusts." Lusts are evil desires. Now there is nothing wrong with desires, unless they center on the forbidden. But—thank God—Jesus Christ can satisfy the every longing of the heart and life. "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart" (Psalm 37:4).

God can bring deliverance to the Christian entangled in conflicts.

Notice some of the steps which James suggests:

"Submit . . . to God."

"Resist the devil."

"Draw nigh to God."

"Cleanse your hands."

"Purify your hearts."

"Humble yourselves."

We heard Paul ask the question in Romans 8:24, "Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Here is his own conclusion: "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Paul realized there is a life of victory in the Lord Jesus Christ. God never intended we should live defeated Christian lives. He promised that we could be "more than conquerors through Him that loved us" (Rom. 8:37).

RESTING IN GOD

Do not be discouraged at your own faults. Bear with your faults in correcting them, as you would with your neighbor. Lay aside this ardor of mind which exhausts your body and leads you to commit errors. Accustom yourself gradually to carry prayer into all your daily occupations. Speak, move, work in peace, as if you were in prayer, as indeed you ought to be.

Do everything without excitement, by the spirit of grace. As soon as you perceive your natural impetuosity gliding in, retire quietly within, where is the kingdom of God. Listen to the leadings of grace. Then say and do nothing but what the Holy Spirit shall put into your heart.

You will find that you will become more tranquil, that your words will be fewer and more effectual, and that, with less effort, you will accomplish more good.—Fenelon.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

DO WE KNOW THE SHEPHERD?

"I am the good shepherd; and know my sheep, and am known of mine." John 10:14.

I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED the parable of the Shepherd and the sheep. Maybe that fact was true in my own life because my great grandfather used to keep sheep, and as a boy I was often at my grand parents, and had opportunity to study sheep and their habits. I remember how the sheep used to come when grandfather would go out to "salt" them, which was a regular occurrence. And they did not fear to crowd in close to him to get a "lick" at the delicacy. And often he would pat one of them on the head or slap it gently on the side, without any fear being stirred in the animal's mind.

My mind was stirred to these memories by a story told by a visitor to Palestine, of how the visitors asked the shepherd to call one of his sheep by name and bid it come to him. This the shepherd did and the animal so designated by name made its way at once from among the other sheep and came to its master's side. Here he patted it and gave it assurance of his pleasure in its obedience and then dismissed it to the continuation of its feeding.

In the story mentioned the writer tells of asking the shepherd to name some of his charges that the visitors might call and see if they would come for their calling. The experiment showed the sheep as not answering the stranger's call. The sheep knew not the voices of strangers, and would not respond to the stranger's call.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd; and know my sheep, and am known of mine." It is the last clause of our text that is meaningful to me; "am known of mine." What a blessed comfort to feel that we know the "Great Shepherd of our souls." To be able to say, "I am my Lord's and He is mine." To know that His care and concern reaches to the utmost limits of our safety and happiness. For "we have not a high priest (or Shepherd) who is unconcerned with our well being, but one who was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin." How proud we are to say of the "Great" of earth that we "know" them. But how much more meaningful to be able to say "I Know Him, whom having not seen I yet love, and in Whom though now I see Him not, I rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory." Oh, glorious Shepherd, suffer us not to wander from Thy care.

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

HANG ON

LAST WEEK I left you hanging right in the middle of conference week. Hold on for a minute (or whatever time it requires to read this page) and you'll learn just how the latter days were even better than the firster.

Dr. J. Garber Drushal brought his challenges even closer home by speaking directly about Brethren Youth and the Brethren Church today and tomorrow. Thank you, JGD, for helping us to prepare our thinking for the future. What you said will make us better members of a growing church, more willing to serve the Son of God.

PEP (Preparing to Execute our Program) brought many different things each day. On Thursday four young girls, the Kohler sisters, and four old men, the Ambassador Quartet, furnished musical entertainment and challenge. Saturday morning we received our project offering, which totaled only $3200 (about one-half of the goal). Listen youth! that's not like you. We must work much harder this next year. Speaking of next year's project,

THIS WILL MAKE YOU SIX

At least you'll see the number six in your sleep soon. The National Brethren Youth project for 1956-57 is to give $6,666.66 to be divided equally between Sarasota and the Ambassador Quartet trip to Europe. That makes $3,333.33 for each—right? Ray Aspinall, project chairman, will have more about this project next week. Watch for it and get an early start.

There are many ways to become stronger, but we all felt that the best way is to flex your spiritual muscles in prayer. Rev. Harold Barnett led us in this "workout" for ten minutes every morning. Thanks Hal! We, and Brethren Youth work in general, are better because of this spirit-exercise for our own work.

ROLF RETURNS

One of the highlights of the week's ending was the return of Rolf Stolpner from Europe, where he has been spending the summer arranging the 1957 itinerary for the Ambassador Quartet. If you have been wondering how the Germans feel about some visiting musicians coming to them, Rolf's report of their eagerness for some Christian representation from the States would thrill you as it did us. He was received very well and in most places they have offered to give us room and board during our stay with them. The contacts vary between hospitals, churches, refugee camps and high schools, but in all places the interest was wonderful.

NO REST FOR THE WORKING

Since the subject of the Ambassadors has been mentioned, let's follow it further. We Ambassadors hit the trail immediately after conference with a service Sunday night, August 19, in Smithville, Ohio. You can follow our schedule for that week in the last issue of the Evangelist. It is really good to have Rolf with us again with first hand information to give you Brethren about his findings while scouting in Europe. Here is an addition to our schedule to keep you up to date:

September 4 .....West Alexandria
September 5 .....Pleasant Hill
September 6 .....Oakville, Indiana
September 7 ..... Muncie
September 8 .....Travel to Illinois
September 9 ...Morning—Milledgeville—Lanark
Evening—Waterloo

"Give many men thy ear, but few thy voice"

THE END

Brethren Youth Conference was closed with three fine programs with much spiritual meaning. The pageant, which Chuck Kraft directed, was a fitting close to the Saturday night program. The theme is a question which each one of you readers should also answer, "What are you doing with your life?" Jerry Flora did a fine job of presenting this challenge which cuts deep into the hearts of those young people who haven't thought much yet about this question. Perhaps what Brethren Youth need is some more challenges like this from the spiritual leaders in the church. Youth, you must do something with your life. Only what is done for Christ will last.

Then Rev. "Bob" Keplinger conducted a fine roundup for conference in the Student Union, building his remarks around several paintings of Christ by Sallman. Sunday morning at 7:15 about 70 Brethren Youth attended threefold communion service at the Park Street Brethren Church. There is no better way to close a wonderful week than by communing with God and your friends. Thank you, Rev. Robert Hoffman, for leading closer to Jesus Christ in this way. Also our thanks to "Keppy" for his work on the Roundup.

CONGRATS!

The best wishes of Brethren Youth go with Jim Rowsey and Edith York who were united in marriage Sunday August 19, at a beautiful service in Memorial Chapel Jim and Edith are deserving of our special thanks for all the work they have done this past summer in the Brethren Youth office doing secretarial work. With the Youth Director traveling quite extensively, it put an extra burden of responsibility upon these two. But they shouldered their job with the utmost diligence and I offer special thanks for their contribution to the work of B. Y.

BOOSTER! BOOSTER! BOOSTER!

Brethren Youth at conference voted to establish a Brethren Youth Booster Club. Membership may be had in this elite organization with a minimum contribution of $1.00. The membership lasts for one year and then it should be renewed. Soon your young people will have these booster cards and be asking for your support as well as adding their own. Get behind Brethren Youth in this way.

BE A BOOSTER—NOT A ROOSTER

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

THE LITTLE THINGS IN LIFE

RECENTLY in a memorial service for a loved one, the minister said when speaking of the departed, "She id what she could, with what she had, where she was."

It brought to my mind the fact that there are some f us who accomplish very little because we are not satsfied to do the little things at hand. Because we can't o the bigger things and have a large field to do them n, we refuse to do anything. Because we do not have ive talents or ten talents, we neglect to use our one. If ve can not shine in a conspicuous place, we fail to see he open doors near by. If we do not use the one talent ve possess, it is not developed and strengthened and vhen the opportunity for larger service comes we are not eady. I know we often feel we do not possess even one alent, or we wonder just what it is. If we cannot sing n the choir, teach a Sunday School class or play the organ we feel we have nothing to offer. We fail to realize he good, a shake of the hand, a cheery smile or a word f encouragement, can do.

No work done in the name of Christ is small or unmportant. The world may take no notice of such work eing done for the Master, but He sees all and is ever eady to bless and will not fail to reward. So it was with Dorcas and her needle, Lydia and her business. In Paul's etter to the Romans he sends greetings to twenty-four ersons, most of them remembered for some little deed hat helped in the work of the church.

When our Lord was on earth, He never lost an opporunity to help a needy soul. Some of His most inspiring vords were spoken to individuals. No suffering outcast ever asked for help that he did not receive and so should ve be ever ready to give of our best to the Master, be t great or small, that He may say of us, "We did what ve could, with what we had, where we were."

In connection with this thought, I like the verse writen by Dr. R. A. Meek—

"Not more of light I ask, O God
But eyes to see what is;
Not sweeter songs but ears to hear
The present melodies;
Not more of joy, but how to feel
Its kindly presence near—
To give to others all I have
Of courage and of cheer.
No other gifts, dear God, I ask
But only the sense to see
How best these precious gifts to use
Thou hast bestowed on me."

Mrs. Albert T. Ronk,

Waterloo, Iowa.

A Prayer

Give us a militant spirit, Lord,
Come, set our spirit on fire.
Give us a passion to share Thy Word;
Give us a consuming desire.

Give us a flaming and burning zeal
Moving us forward and on;
Help us the urgency, Lord, to feel
Till greater vict'ry is won.

Help us, dear Lord, all to volunteer
Time, talents, service and all.
Burn out indifference, sloth and fear;
Challenge us with Thy call.

Baptize our souls with Thy holy love;
Yearn through us, love through our souls.
Center our vision on things above;
Banish all lesser earth-goals.

Give us a spirit of sacrifice,
Help us to learn how to give;
Help us to love and forget the price,
Unselfishly help us live.

Teach us to value Thy Kingdom most
Putting our own int'rests last.
Send in a new way Thy Holy Ghost
Helping us often to fast.

Pray through us prayers that will shake the world
Make us all warriors in prayer.
Keep us with banners of faith unfurled;
May we real prayer-battle share.

Help us a mighty offensive begin—
Forward for God on our knees!
Help us to conquer the hosts of sin
Praying for what Thou dost please.

Give us a militant spirit, Lord,
Banish indifference and ease;
Help us advance and obey Thy Word,
NOW the offensive to seize.

Make us a praying, believing host,
Proving Thy promises true.
Help us to war in the Holy Ghost
Honour Thy name, Lord, anew!

—The Missionary Standard.

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ASK ANY Conference Delegate about the new and improved Book Store and Gift Shop at The Brethren Publishing Company!

Here are a number of books that seemed popular with the delegates and we are sure you will want some of them.

"How To Be A Preacher's Wife and Like It" . . Price $2.00
Lora Lee Parrott gives some practical pointers on parsonage living. Ideal for those contemplating marriage and for those already living in a parsonage.

"All of The Women of The Bible" by Edith Deen, Price $4.95
To see the Bible from the angle of its women adds a new dimension to it.

"Christ and The Fine Arts" by Cynthia Pearl Maus. Price $5.95
Contains 90 art reproductions and interpretations; 117 hymns and interpretations; 240 poems; 70 stories.

"Devotions For the Children's Hour" by Kenneth N. Taylor. Price $2.50
Contains forty-eight simple studies in Christian doctrine arranged for family devotions. 189 pages. Illustrated.

"Storms and Starlight" by V. Raymond Edman. Price $2.50
Heart-stirring devotional book. Lessons from every day life and commonplace folk. Most of the incidents are from the Gospel of Mark. 240 pages.

Three fine devotional gift books from the pen of Mrs. Charles E. Cowman are "Handfuls of Purpose," "Streams in the Desert" and "Mountain Trailways For Youth," price of each $2.25.

Boy's Brotherhood — Attention!

Get your order in early for "Jungles Ahead!" a book on African Missions. Mrs. Esther D. Horner has brilliantly crystalized what she saw there in terms of six remarkable real-life stories. Through them she shows not merely what new lives these native Africans are trying to live, but why they have made their decisions to change. Price $1.25 plus 8c postage.

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Items of General Interest

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Brother Freeman Ankrum reports the baptism of two new members on August 12th, with another to come by letter shortly.

BRYAN, OHIO. The annual "Brethren Retreat" of the Bryan Church is scheduled for September 16th, at the Partee farm during the afternoon, and the evening at the church. It is planned for the young people of the church from 9 years of age and up. It is also planned for the leaders of the church. Devotional periods, discussion groups, recreation and meals will be featured for the various age groups.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Cornerstone Laying Services, for New Lebanon Brethren's new Sunday School addition, were held on August 26th. Brother John T. Byler reports an attendance of approximately 250 at the services. Those in attendance signed their names on a list which list was then placed in the brass box. Also included was a copy of the church history, in two parts: the first, written by Brother L. V. King when pastor of the New Lebanon Church on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the church, and part two, by Brother Byler, including a summary of events to the present day. Also included was a Bible, copies of Church publications, copies of Sunday School literature used by the New Lebanon church, lists of Church and Sunday School officers and teachers and Auxiliaries, etc.

The Editor of Publications has been supplied with an architect's drawing of the proposed new structure, and it, along with a fuller report of the Cornerstone Laying will appear soon in the **Evangelist.**

FLORA, INDIANA. Brother C. A. Stewart reports the baptism and reception of five new members on August 22nd.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Brother J. D. Hamel notes in his bulletin, "The attendance for Sunday Morning Worship shows a substantial increase over last year."

Under the direction of the trustees the house next door to the church has been leveled, and the property is soon to be made available for parking.

On Wednesday evening, August 29th, the Prayer Meeting group of the South Bend church attended the services of the Hope Rescue Mission, with South Bend Pastor, J. D. Hamel, speaking.

WARSAW, INDIANA. Brother Robert G. Holsinger notes that "Six carloads of people made the trip to the Brethren's Home at Flora, on August 22nd. The choir presented a fine program which was deeply appreciated by the residents of the Home." Canned food was also taken to the Home.

We note also that the Trustees of the Warsaw Church have signed the contract for the purchase of the two properties west of the church.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. A farewell party and pot-luck dinner for Brother Virgil E. Meyer and family, was held in the church basement on Monday evening, August 27th.

HOWE, INDIANA. BRIGHTON CHAPEL BRETHREN Brother Walter Lichtenberger was the scheduled guest speaker in the Brighton Chapel on September 2nd.

COMING EVENTS

NORTH GEORGETOWN, OHIO. Revival Meetings—**September 9-16**—Services 8:00 P. M. D. S. T. Rev. William H. Anderson, Evangelist, Rev. Donald Rowser, Pastor.

MEXICO, INDIANA. Rally Day and Homecoming—**September 30th**—All day meeting with basket dinner at noon. Rev. Henry Bates, of North Manchester, afternoon speaker. Rev. Wayne Swihart, Pastor.

MIAMI VALLEY BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY

September 9th

Gretna Brethren Church

Registration—3:30-4:00

Afternoon Program—4:00-5:15
Supper—5:30
Evening Program 7:00-8:00

Logan County Probation Officer will be the speaker of the evening service. He is a minister and a devout servant of His Lord. All young people welcome.

The Editor's Pulpit

Look Up, And Live

SOMEWHERE, in our reading, we came across an item which though the exact statistics have slipped from our mind, the essence remains. It seems a man, walking down the street, found a sum of money—a quarter, a dollar or a five dollar bill—it matters not the amount. Whatever it was, he found it, and he picked it up and claimed it for his own. (Without doubt, most of us have been "lucky" at some time or other and have found an unclaimed coin or bill.)

Henceforth, though, this man of the story, because of his "lucky find"—spent the rest of his life, as he walked, looking at the ground. In that time he had collected thousands of pins and tacks, some pretty-colored stones, some baubles and pieces of colored glass, plus a host of other more or less worthless trinkets.

Yes, we know we should see the ground when we walk—if we don't we stumble and fall. But the man of the story was not watching the ground for that reason. His reason was obvious.

We must now consider what this man **lost** while keeping his eyes glued to the ground as he walked. He missed the beauty and the glory of the sunrise—the praise and benediction of the sunset. He missed the cheery greeting which comes when one meets friends along the way. He missed the sight of children at play—of men and women hard at work, toiling and perspiring through an honest day's labor. He missed thousands of opportunities to help his fellowmen—to lift a burdened soul.

Yes, he missed all these things whereby he could have lived a richer, fuller, happier life. (But then did you see his collection of pins, tacks, stones, baubles, etc.? He was proud of them! Would you call that success in life?)

Few of us would spend a life-time snooping over the ground, hunting coins, and getting a few—plus a storehouse of worthless "finds." But guilt may rest upon us in another way if we have so tied ourselves to some passion, some habit that deprives us of our real worth in living. If greed has tied our souls to a life-time of endeavor whereby we labor to the exclusion of friendship, fellowship and enjoyment of worthwhile things in life; if prejudice, hate, sin, have bent our hearts and focused our eyes only upon the ground as we hunt for small "rewards," then we are like the man who dissipated his soul and body to his own loss.

The child at play, a man, a woman, calloused and worn with honest toil, can live life to the fullest when there is faith in the Lord, and a joyful outlook on life.

Christ said, "I am come that ye might have life, and might have it more abundantly." We do have our eternal faith, but we also have a faith that conquers greed, selfishness, despair and futility. Let us look up, see our opportunities, and live. We like the words of T. B. Romeyn, which follow:

> "As one climbs a mountain roadway, and looks off on the landscape through the forest trees or from some overtopping crag, at each step he sees more and more of the outlying beauty of field and lake and forest and hill and river, till he reaches the summit, where the whole vast scene opens to the view, and enthuses his soul with delight. So life should be a constant look-out, through the gray mists, through the falling shadows, through the running tears, till he comes to the shining top of life in God Himself, where the fogs lift, and the shadows fall, and the view is all undisturbed."

Let's check up; if we are filling our storehouses with pins, tacks, baubles, stones and glass, as we

(Continued on Page 7)

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

Boyhood Days on the old Deffenbaugh Farm

Part Three

ONE OF THE INTERESTING TIMES in the fall of the year was when Dad rounded us up and said that it was time to get our boots for the winter. We wore, when we had to, shoes in the summer time. They were too costly to be used rashly and unnecessarily. So we would go in an evening to John Bell's store in Brownsville where we would be outfitted with leather boots for the winter. Prices ran about $1.50 a pair, and being that costly, had to be carefully used. Lucky was the boy whose boots had red tops and shiny copper toes. Any one who wore them in wet weather and found them hard to put on in the morning does not need to be reminded of the "glories" of wearing shoes. The writer, possessing a high instep suffered many things and many mornings in getting them on. When the soles wore out, Dad took out his shoe repairing box, with its maple pegs, and awl, and resoled them. He told us often that the repair kit, box and all was brought from Ireland by an ancestor. For some reason, boots have no attraction for the writer.

Occasionally we got to go to Newark or Zanesville. This was a rare treat. One day we read that Buffalo Bill's Show was to appear in Zanesville. So Earl and the writer asked Uncle Sam if we could clean the briars from a corn field of some thirty acres for 50c each. We thought that was the price of a ticket to the show. He said "Yes." We worked hard; Mother checked to see that we had done the job right. The 50c was paid each of us and the big day appeared. An Uncle took us in a buggy the 16 miles to Zanesville to see the Show. The admission charge, we found, was 75c. We were short 25c. Did we see the Show? Yes we saw part of it as we were permitted to climb a windmill tower on the grounds and look over a low section of the tent wall. That was one of life's boyhood tragedies. Later on there came a chance and Buffalo Bill was seen in the same city and we had a seat. But then we were already in College and had a little more to say about matters.

One of the treats would be when we could go to the store owned by J. D. Findley, in Glenford. Another treat was when we went to Bethel and went to Rufus Helsers to visit and to have dinner. He also had a store. We liked to go to Findley's Store as much as Winfred, his son liked to come to the country to the Deffenbaugh farm. Mr. Findley always had a stick of candy to offer us country boys. J. D. Findley, wife, and son, Winfred had moved to Glenford, Ohio, from Johnstown, Pennsylvania, following the disastrous flood in 1889. He possessed a General Store which was of intense interest to the country boy.

Winfred was permitted to spend several weeks each summer on the Deffenbaugh farm. One condition was that he practiced faithfully his piano lessons. He did, but it was no pleasure as we boys impatiently waited in the yard for him to finish his hour. Minnie saw that he did the trick faithfully. She was the one who gave him the lessons. He and the writer were in Sunday School together. Church together and roomed together for four years in Ashland College, graduating together in 1914. We corresponded with one another until his death in March 1953, at his home in Roanoke, Virginia. If we ever had a childish disagreement it is not remembered for who would be so dumb as to fall out with a boy whose father owned a store and who himself had many wonderful toys? His father was our teacher in Sunday school as wiggling boys whose feet could not reach to the floor, until we went to College. His influence in our lives cannot be measured. Summer days at Deffenbaughs meant riding on the wheat wagons, hauling straw, playing in the wheat which was not always appreciated by Uncle Sam, and many things too numerous to mention. There were cool and inviting woods in which to play, and shady springs to attract our interest. Hauling hay shocks was really a treat.

The writer remembers his first job, away from the farm. It was for Murray Bowser who lived on the farm to the north east. He now lives, at this writing, in Newark, Ohio. We were as a mere lad given 25c a day, and of course, dinner, for hauling hay shocks to the stack. Being timid when noon time came, eating was an agony. Suffice it to state that condition does not hold good today. The Traction Engine, pulled the Separator when they progressed from the horse drawn engines. We were usually found chasing along by the side of the engine. When the Engineer pulled the whistle cord to frighten us, he always succeeded. Threshing was a major farm task at the Deffenbaughs as they raised hundreds of

ushels of wheat. There were neighbors who came in to exchange work, who added to the lively interest of the day.

One of the projects, new for the Deffenbaugh farm was that of raising tobacco. It was partly for this reason that Watt Ankrum and family moved to the Deffenbaugh farm from Guernsey County, Ohio. Log heaps were burned to kill the weed seeds and then the Tobacco seed was sown. When the plants were ready they had to be set out in the field. This of course necessitated a tobacco barn for drying and curing the crop. This was built. Raising tobacco was a full time job. Whether it paid or not, to the writer as a boy it was interesting.

Jason Mack lived on the farm to the south west beyond that of Martin Daugherty. He was one who though raised in the Dunker Faith, the Faith of his immediate forefathers, did not align himself with the Church until he was fifty years old. He, as has been stated in another article, was Rev. Quincy Leckrone's first convert in his first Meeting and also his first Baptism. Grand Pap Mack was a staunch defender of the Faith. He could not agree with his daughters, Lucinda and Olla, when they joined the "Progressives."

Those times were times when tempers were short and tongues were sharp. Jason Mack was the custodian of the Greenwood Church, a labor of love. He had had a severe reverse when he had signed a note for a brother. Jacob, the only son united with the "Conservatives." Memories of Grand Pap Mack's visit to us were vivid. Usually an argument had started in the house and as the argument waxed longer and longer, voices waxed higher and higher. Each contended unmistakably for their churches. To the writer it was impossible to differentiate between heat and facts. Grand Father Mack took on all comers not aligned up with the Conservatives. One of his favorite targets was the young John Allen Miller, of Ashland who spent summers in the Deffenbaugh home as a preacher. However there were times when Grand Father had to ask his aid, when a Lutheran Preacher sprung his Greek on Grand Dad. Together they were yoke fellows against a rank outsider. Grand Father was a contender for the faith until struck down by the worst type of Small Pox, February 7, 1902. His funeral was held later on in the Church he loved and he is buried in the Lutheran Cemetery west of the Church a mile or more.

There was one time when we had no objections to having our necks and ears washed, or being sent to bed early. That was the time after harvest when a long trip was planned to visit Uncles, Aunts and numerous cousins in Guernsey County, Ohio. They lived in and around New Concord and Cambridge. This was the outstanding event of the year for this was thirty miles away. Baskets of lunch, "Telescopes" full of clothing were prepared, and bright and early the start was made with the two horse carriage. At first, interest kept things livened up, then came the passing through Zanesville which kept us pop eyed. Long in the afternoon after traveling apparently endless miles over the Old National Pike, the journey ended. Cousins shyly eyed each other but not for long until they were fully at play apparently never having been strangers. The time we were caught in the hail storm at Norwich is still remembered by the ones of us old enough to sense its importance when it struck frightening the horses as well as all of us. The allotted time for the visit passed all too rapidly, and good byes were said and the long journey home began. The writer often thinks when traveling over the same territory today, in a little more than an hour of the hours spent behind the plodding horses in another day and period.

It was decided that a bell was needed for the Berachah Church. The way to raise money even in those days was by Ice Cream Festivals. So it was decided to have an Ice Cream Festival. Home made cake and Ice Cream, made on the lawn were served. It was outstanding for us youngsters for we were given a dime apiece. That however produced a problem. First, there would be no repeat in dimes, second they served a 5 cent and a 10 cent dish. Each dish was accompanied by a piece of cake. After due deliberation it was thought best to order two five cent dishes, thereby getting an extra piece of cake. Well, the Bell was secured and today reposes mutely on the ground of the Glenford Brethren Church. The Berachah Church is only a memory, and has been torn down for years. The last service in it was that of the funeral of Minnie Deffenbaugh held in 1917.

Many acts of boyhood were thoughtless. Uncle Sam, though exasperated with us at times almost without number, never the less was fond of us. How he could do this showed his long suffering. There were some Prophets who were outspoken in their predictions "You will land in the Lancaster Reformatory," they freely predicted. Suffice it to state that they were wrong in all their prophecies. Aunt Mary never failed to inspire us and hold out for us great things in the future. The Author is glad to recall that he in her old age was able to bring joys into her life that she otherwise might not have had. We were never allowed to forget our Mack Ancestry, and in fact took it for granted thinking that it was a natural matter until Dr. J. Allen Miller brought

(Continued on Page 10)

THE LAYMEN'S BEATITUDES

1. Blessed is the man whose calendar contains prayer meeting nights.

2. Blessed is the man who does not remain away from church because it drizzles.

3. Blessed is the man who can stay over an hour in a church service.

4. Blessed is the man who loves the Lord's work with his pocket as well as his heart.

5. Blessed is the man whose watch keeps church time as well as business time.

6. Blessed is the man who leaves the back pews for the late comers.

7. Blessed is the man who does not have a summer "lay-off" from his religion.

8. Blessed is the man whose eyesight will stand as much reading of the Bible as of the Sunday newspaper.—Selected.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

DR. PATTON writes

August 23, 1956

My Dear Clayton:

I just want to say "thank you" for your many kindnesses and courtesies in connection with my trip to Ashland. You did everything to make me comfortable and feel at home, and I certainly appreciate it.

I enjoyed getting to know your people and seeing your fine church at work. It was a thrilling experience.

May God continue to bless you in the work you are doing.

Most sincerely,

Jim Patton.

Those of you who attended Conference will recall with considerable satisfaction the challenging message delivered by Dr. Patton in the W. M. S. meeting and the excellent assistance he provided in the Stewardship workshop.

Dr. James G. Patton of Atlanta, Georgia, serves as executive secretary of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. He has had wide experience in the field of Christian stewardship, educating many individuals and groups in this important ministry. Many individuals have expressed the desire to hear Dr. Patton in further meetings such as these.

A RESOLUTION OF THANKS

The Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, assembled in its annual meeting at Ashland, Ohio, hereby resolves—in appreciation of the very splendid work that has been done and is now being done by Mr. Dorman Ronk and his wife at Lost Creek, Kentucky, in directing and constructing the new parsonage for Reverend and Mrs. Drushal to replace the one which burned and the new classroom-gymnasium-community building and the many improvements, greatly needed, and in their helpfulness with the spiritual work as well as with the physical property—that to them be conveyed our most sincere thanks and our earnest desire that they continue in the service of the Brethren Church in this field of construction where he is so well qualified.

Committee: Harlan Hollewell and Claud Studebaker.

NEWARK IN THE NEWS

In the recent bulletin, published by Armco Drainage and Metal Products, manufacturers and distributors of the portable chapel, appears the picture of the Newark Brethren Church.

The Armco bulletin features a number of the more attractive structures being used for worship services. Mention is made that the chapel was first erected for a mission church at Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, then dismantled, moved and re-erected at Newark, Ohio, where a Sunday school unit was added, with some of the work being done by members of the church.

These Brethren are to be commended for maintaining a church building so attractive that it is used for publicity purposes. They are to be commended also for their perseverance in this new work. News in Reverend Crick's church bulletin indicates that some sickness has handicapped the program there a bit, but in characteristic fashion, they are still going ahead—pressing toward a new goal for Rally Day.

Our best wishes, Newark Brethren!

HOW I RAISE MY BABY IN CONGO—

an African Mother

(Taken from **Unified Promotion,** a Christian Church publication)

It is a heavy load to raise a baby in Congo, but we love our babies and do our best. We have so many enemies to carry them away. However, we don't worry about all the little things a white mother does, such as clothes food, mosquito nets and drinking water. But, oh, the big worries we have! When we are in labor, we must never let anyone know, or all may not go well with the child What if the evil spirit hears about our new baby! He may destroy it through some deed of mother, father, or friend, or through food eaten by any of us.

The best way to insure a healthy baby, to insure strong bones and teeth, is to buy a lot of charms to tie around the neck, arms, legs and waist of the baby. These charms are obtained from the witch doctor; for only he knows which seed, fruit, bone, stick, feather or string will have the power to overcome the evil spirits. He can, also cut small incisions in the baby's skin to let out the evil spirits. What worries us most is the convulsions. The white teachers say it is due to the mosquito, but we know it is witchcraft. For the baby with convulsions, we put red pepper in its eyes, give it a strong enema and pour gallons of cold water over it.

Some of our mothers are trying to imitate the white mothers. They make clothes and a net and bed for the baby before they even know it might live. Then they boil the drinking water and even buy milk and cereal for it. They seem to have nice babies, but we would be afraid we would offend some evil spirit hiding around and we would lose our little one, as many of the women lose theirs by doing some foolish thing.

Yes, it is a big task to raise a baby here in Congo but maybe when we learn more about the Great Physician the white folks tell us about, we shall be able to throw away some of our fears and worries. Until we do

ve must follow the "wisdom" of our fathers and moth-ers."—Georgia Bateman.

(Georgia Bateman's name has been identified with med-cal missions in the Belgian Congo since 1927. Thousands —tens of thousands—have been helped by her Christian ervice.)

THE MINISTRY HAS A STEWARDSHIP TO FULFILL

THE CHURCH ordains its ministers to a high calling of honor and leadership. The program to recruit, ducate and sustain an adequate and effective ministry s absolutely essential to the future of the Church and he Kingdom. It is evident that the ministry is a stew-rdship in the highest sense.

Jesus made it clear to His disciples that they were not eing called to high offices of privilege to be served by thers; rather, they were to follow their master, whose vhole purpose was to serve and give His life as a ran-om for many.

Paul, one of the finest Christian stewards, wrote: "This s how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and tewards of the mysteries of God." (I Cor. 4:2). When e admonishes Timothy, "Fulfill your ministry," (II Tim. :5) he instructs him as to the full responsibilities that ave been entrusted to him as a minister and steward or Christ. The success of the minister, as Christ measures uccess, requires the giving of himself and all that he as in the service of Christ and humanity. He can ful-ill his ministry by leading and developing a congregation f trustworthy Christian stewards.

—from "Fulfill Your Ministry" **Unified Promotion**, In-lianapolis, Indiana.

KENNETH C. MOCK ORDAINED at the Cerro Gordo Brethren Church August 6, 1956

ORDINATION SERVICES for Kenneth C. Mock, of the Cerro Gordo, Illinois, Brethren Church, were eld in the Cerro Gordo Brethren Church on August 6, 1956.

Rev. Wilbur Thomas, pastor of the Brethren Church at Leon, Iowa, presided over the service. Rev. Harold Gar-land, Pastor of the West Alexandria, Ohio, Brethren Church, gave the ordination message. Mrs. Metzger of the Cerro Gordo Church, read the Church and Minister-ial Examining Board action in the ordaining of Brother Mock.

Kenneth Mock came into the Brethren Church at Cum-berland, Maryland, and supplied the Sergeantsville and Calvary Brethren Churches in New Jersey, for several months, and then accepted a call to Cerro Gordo.

THE EDITOR'S PULPIT

LOOK UP, AND LIVE!

(Continued from Page 3)

have picked these things up from our ground-bound eyes, let's clean house. Around us, above us, ahead of us are many bright and shining views, and opportunities of Christian service. The abundant life of which our Savior spoke is that which finds us serving, helping and doing His will among men. W. S. B.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

PRIORITIES

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1.

THESE ARE DAYS of priorities. "First" things are priorities. The industrial life of our nation has for several years been geared to the production of articles regarded as essential to our national defense. And the government not only lays claim to prior right to the use of the manufacturing and other productive activities of the people of the republic, but even claims a priority on the right of its citizen's lives, taking the cream of the youth (young men) of the land to build up an army of defense, and to preserve democracy.

And there are priorities in the spiritual kingdom. Jesus admonishes us to "put first things first" when He commanded that we should "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness." The kingdom of God is both a gift and a task. It is a challenge to labor more earnestly and conscientiously for peace on earth and good will among men. As a gift the kingdom is the assurance that whatever may happen, God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in our every time of need.

This old, troubled world of ours needs a good many things—a new appraisement of our international relationship. To realize that there is a divine pronouncement as to God's view and desire as to our race and international relations. There is need also for a more just economic order and spirit. And we must have a fellowship among men which is free from race discrimination. Else we shall have no lasting peace on earth. Some one says that we shall never be able to achieve these ideals. No, only as Christians find in God the power to meet the difficulties of our world.

GIFTS TO THE BENEVOLENT BOARD

(July 1, 1955 to June 30, 1956)
By Districts

*Increase over last year.

Southeastern

Bethlehem*	$ 42.00
Cumberland	15.00
Gatewood*	4.50
Hagerstown	268.96
Haddix	
Liberty*	4.00
Linwood*	15.00
Lost Creek*	15.00
Mathias*	1.00
Maurertown	25.00
Mt. Olive*	72.00
Oak Hill	60.00
Rowdy	
St. James	42.00
St. Luke	
Washington*	26.00
Total	$ 590.46

* * *

Pennsylvania

Berlin*	$ 283.44
Brush Valley	16.95
Calvary*	20.00
Conemaugh*	76.00
Cameron*	31.00
Highland*	41.00
Johnstown I*	129.72
Johnstown II*	150.00
Johnstown III*	233.00
Masontown*	101.00
Meyersdale*	124.50
Mt. Olivet	23.50
Mt. Pleasant*	17.25
Pittsburgh*	105.13
Quiet Dell	
Raystown	2.00
Sergeantsville*	60.50
Summit Mills	
Valley*	30.00
Vandergrift*	40.00
Vinco*	224.17
Waynesboro*	53.00
White Dell	16.75
Total*	$ 1,768.20

* * *

Ohio

Akron	$ 42.00
Ashland*	270.25
Bryan*	252.20
Canton*	118.00
Columbus	10.00
Dayton*	184.00
Fairhaven*	40.20
Fairview*	17.00
Fremont*	18.40
Glenford*	21.00
Gratis	25.00
Gretna	72.95
Louisville*	440.94
Mansfield	5.00
Mt. Zion	
New Lebanon	205.00
N. Georgetown	39.00
Newark*	13.50
Pleasant Hill*	112.98
Smithville	341.80
W. Alexandria	40.00
Williamstown*	116.43
Total	$ 2,385.60

* * *

Central

Cerro Gordo*	$ 10.50
Lanark	99.75
Milledgeville*	341.00
Udell*	51.50
Waterloo*	88.00
Total*	$ 590.75

* * *

Mid-West

Carleton*	$ 10.00
Cheyenne	
Falls City	17.00
Fort Scott*	10.00
McLouth	
Morrill*	8.00
Mulvane*	19.25
Total	$ 64.25

* * *

Indiana

Akron*	$
Ardmore*	52.00
Brighton*	30.00
Burlington	77.30
Center Chapel*	124.77
College Corner*	49.91
Corinth	51.50
County Line*	153.35
Denver*	87.05
Dutchtown*	23.00
Elkhart*	570.80
Flora	112.30
Goshen	410.34
Huntington	28.00
Loree	180.00
Mexico	26.00
Milford	50.00
Muncie	96.56
Nappanee	10.00
New Paris*	331.00
North Liberty	99.00
N. Manchester	
Oakville*	75.00
Peru*	60.00
Roann*	61.00
Roanoke*	55.00
Sherwood	
South Bend*	700.00
Teegarden	35.00
Tiosa*	100.00
Warsaw*	100.60
Total*	$ 3,749.48

* * *

Northern California

Lathrop	
Manteca*	73.14
Stockton	
Turlock (Abandoned)*	2,400.00
Total*	$ 2,473.14

* * *

Scattered

Tucson*	$ 55.05
Sarasota*	54.20
Miscellaneous*	97.50
Total*	$ 206.75

* * *

GRAND TOTAL $11,829.34

LEADING CHURCHES

Turlock	$ 2,400.00
South Bend	700.00
Elkhart	570.80
Louisville	440.94

Goshen	410.34
Smithville	341.80
Milledgeville	341.00
New Paris	331.00
Berlin	283.44
Ashland	270.25
Hagerstown	268.96
Bryan	252.50
Vinco	224.17
Johnstown III	223.00
New Lebanon	215.00

Total 1954:

Churches	$ 7,157.71
National W. M. S.	1,100.00
Total	$ 8,257.71

* * *

Total 1955:

Churches	$ 8,769.29
National W. M. S.	1,000.00
Closed Church	9,800.00
Total	$ 10,569.29

* * *

Total 1956:

Churches	$ 9,429.34
National W. M. S.	1,000.00
Closed Church	2,400.00
Total	$11,829.34

Largest Individual Givers

Roland Obenchain (South Bend)	$500.00
Rev. Austin Gable (Denver)	100.00
Viola Knoll (Louisville)	60.00
A. E. Schwab (Louisville)	50.00
A Friend	50.00
S. D. Stuckman (Johnstown I)	50.00
Rev. W. R. Deeter (Udell)	31.00
Glenn Carpenter (Ashland)	30.00

Mrs. Gladys Lonero, Dr. Chas. Anspach, L. P. Clapper, Walter Wertz, Rev. Geo. Carpenter, Earl Benshoff, Rev. John Gillin, Fred Frye, Mrs. Ida Weirick, each gave $25.00.

L. V. King, Treasurer.

Facts of the Board

Rev. E. M. Riddle, after serving faithfully as Secretary of the Board, resigned, thus avoiding being on two boards at the same time, and in order to give more time to the Mission Board. Mr. Everett Keplinger, 2426 Lynn Ave., Dayton 6, Ohio, has been appointed to take his place as secretary. All correspondence should be directed to him. New Board members are: Rev. Clarence Stogsdill, 186 Spring St., Johnstown, Penna., and Russell Wolfe, Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

AVAILABLE NOW!

DR. CLAUD STUDEBAKER'S Booklet:

"A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE BRETHREN CHURCH"

This is the second printing of this valuable booklet, for which there has been much demand since the first edition was exhausted.

"A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE BRETHREN CHURCH" contains a Historical Background of the Brethren Church, plus an explanation of Brethren Doctrines and Ordinances.

On what we believe, and why we practice what we do, Dr. Studebaker's booklet is full of helpful information, facts and scripture references.

It can well be given to those who ask, "What is the Brethren Church, what does the Brethren Church believe and practise?"

This new edition, just fresh from the presses of your Publishing Company can be obtained in any quantity, at

10c each; $1.00 per dozen.

Order several dozen, or more to give to your church members, to prospective members, and to anyone who asks questions about the Brethren faith.

This second printing is sponsored by the Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood of the Brethren Church.

Order from The Brethren Publishing Company

Ashland, Ohio.

BOYHOOD DAYS ON THE OLD DEFFENBAUGH FARM

(Continued from Page 5)

to the Author's attention and mind that it was at least just a little unusual. The heritage was a challenge and something of which to be proud.

When Ed Burnworth came to take up the Pastorate following the closing of J. M. Bowman's work, he was the object of much attention to us youngsters. We had never seen the type of "Nose glasses," that he wore. There were some exceedingly Rural who called him a "Dude," because of his dress. Never the less he baptized some of those who had styled him thus. They found that he was a "regular fellow." One was the Uncle of the Author, Watt Ankrum. He along with others was baptized in the old baptizing hole in the creek on Rev. Sam Orr's place. Uncle Watt, though denied the benefit of an education, gave of his best to the church and its work. He delighted in "lifting the offering." Rev. Burnworth's pastorate covered a period of four years. We removed from the Deffenbaugh Farm in the Spring of 1901. This Summer Rev. I. D. Bowman, held the Evangelistic Meeting. In the creek on the Deffenbaugh Farm were baptized among others, Earl Ankrum, Winfred Findley and the writer, by Ed Burnworth. During the winter, Rev. Burnworth attended Ashland College. The Summers were spent on the Deffenbaugh farm. One day he was asked by the writer, as the wonderful invention, the Telephone was observed on the wall, if we were not at an end in inventing. His reply was "we have not even scratched the surface of inventions." How true those words spoken so long ago.

Trips to the Mill at Somerset with Uncle Sam were always looked for. It meant usually the best part of the day, and there might be a train to be seen. The trip was six miles one way and to us was a real treat.

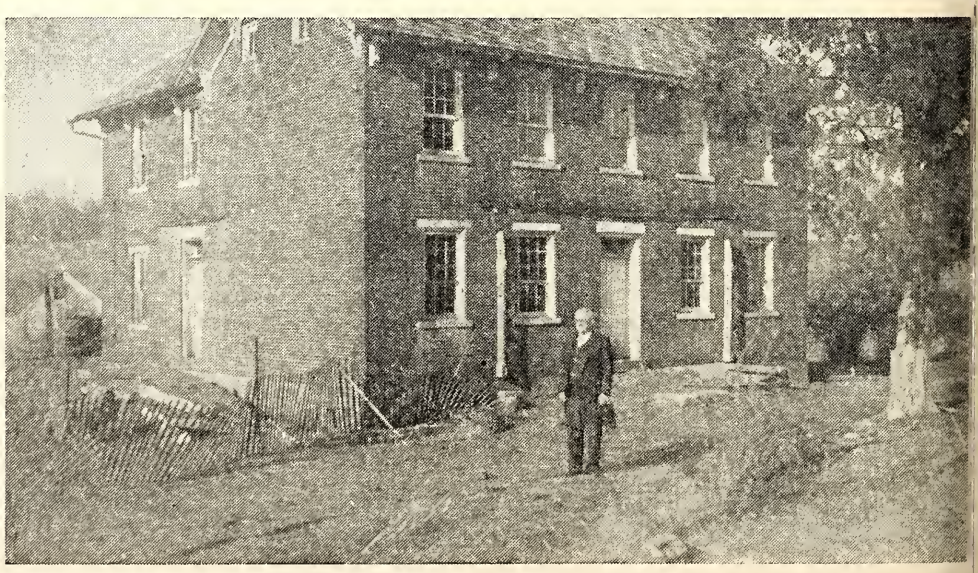
There were births, deaths and various illnesses to bring their joys and sorrows to the brick house. Tragedy struck when Virgil was stricken. The Doctor pronounced it Muscular Rheumatism. Today it would likely be pronounced Polio. All of us youngsters hung around him. Fortunately none of us took it. Today, he still walks with a limp and does not have the full use of one hand. The Bradshaw girls had the measles. It was thought to be a fine thing to get them also. They finally came with their fever and breaking out. Water was desired but prohibited. So when mother's back was turned a trip was made to the nearby Spring and we drank our fill. No one died as a result of it.

The Geese, when they showed signs of losing a feather were carefully watched, and sometimes chased to aid them in the shedding. It was needed to add to the other feathers to make the Indian head dresses we formed for our decorations. In the winter, the "Dead Falls," set by our elders were carefully watched to see what would happen to get into them.

When we got to attend preaching at the Bethel church there was joy, for we usually got to go to Harris Loves for dinner. She was noted as one of the best cooks of the congregation. Then there were older boys with numerous gimmicks and toys. Preaching at the Berachah Church was also welcomed for usually some one came home with us for dinner. Then the long afternoon spent in playing went by on swift wings. Days of Social contacts were few and mainly provided by the Church with its activities. Threshing, Cider making in season, Butchering brought new faces, but butchering, well there was school to interfere with the enjoyment of that process.

After eight years spent on the Deffenbaugh farm, Dad and Mother, mainly through faith, decided to buy for themselves a farm of some 147 acres four miles to the east and three quarters of a mile south of the village of Gratiot on the old National Pike. So in 1901 the move was made in April to the new home and location. This farm today is owned by Ivan and is the Ankrum homestead.

Time rolls on and we either roll with it or are rolled over. The old Greenwood church is only a memory. The original burned down in 1896, and its successor had long been razed. The Berachah Church exists today only in



THE AUTHOR IN FRONT OF HIS OLD BOYHOOD HOME

The Home of
"Uncle" Sam and "Aunt" Mary Deffenbaugh

nemory of those who entered its doors. Reverses came, Jncle Sam passed away on the old farm. A short time ater in 1929 (November 7), the rest of the family moved o near Shiloh, Ohio. Ethel, widowed for many years is Mrs. Charles Tinkey and lives with her son John and vife, R. D., Danville, Ohio. Today, others who have no knowledge of the happy events of other days live in the upper house and till the rolling acres. The orchards are gone, fences have been removed but the old woods cover nuch the same terrain. Decay has made its mark and he teeth of time have not only nibbled but taken a deep bite out of the remaining property. The Author visits he place annually and memories of long, long ago with nemories of those long departed well up in memory's ane. Boyhood days on the old Deffenbaugh Farm, with hose of culture and education, along with high ideals nade those early years, years of such impression that heir effects still remain. While we cannot go back to hem we have the faculty of being able to bring them o us, without the imperfections, the trials and the unpleasantries which had their place in them and with them n their realities.

St. James, Maryland.

(The End)

WELLER. Mrs. (Izene O'Neill) John L. Weller, died July 25th, 1956 at her home in Los Angeles, Calif., at the age of nearly 90 years. She was born, October 23, 1866, near Mineral Point, Penna. At age of 16, was baptized in the Conemaugh river, and remained a member of the Brethren Church until her death, holding her membership in the Waterloo Church, since 1884. Married in 1888 to John L. Weller, of Waterloo. To this union, four children were born, who survive.

daughter, Mrs. E. L. Mussetter,
San Pedro, Calif.

WHAT THE CHURCH NEEDS

Clay P. Morgan

More tithes and fewer drives.

More action and less friction.

More workers and fewer shirkers.

More backers and fewer slackers.

More of God's plans and less of man's.

More praying and less straying.

More divine power and less human pow-wow.

More Good News and fewer book reviews.

More burdenbearers and fewer talebearers.

More fighting squads and fewer tightwads.

More tongues of fire and fewer fiery tongues.

More zealous efforts and less jealous thought.

More love for the Word and less love for the world.

More seeking for grace and less seeking for place.

More holiness of life and less bickering and strife.

More fasting and praying and less feasting and playing.

More time spent in upper rooms and less in supper rooms.

More religion in politics and less politics in religion.

—Selected.

THE ANVIL

Dr. Reuben Saillens

Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith's door
And heard the anvil ring the evening chime;
Then looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.
"How many anvils have you had," said I,
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," he answered with a twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."
And so, thought I, the Anvil of God's Word,
For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;
Yet, though the noise of infidels was heard,
The Anvil is unworn—the hammers gone!

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

A GROANING GIVER

I cannot give to Mission Boards;
So please don't ask me to.
I've had my salary cut so much
I don't know what to do.

My dividends have been cut, too,
And stocks and bonds are low,
I have two boys in college
And another one to go.

The bills go on. We have to eat.
We must have clothing, too.
Insurance, dentist, income tax,
And mortgage interest due.

And then my car is very old,
I'll have to turn it in;
And cars are cheap just now. To wait
Would almost be a sin.

O yes, I joined some years ago,
My wife's a member, too.
We haven't been out much of late;
There is so much to do.

I'm interested in the work,
I hope some day to give;
But just at present—well—you know
A man has got to live.

I heard the budget had been cut,
I'm not surprised at that.
Of course it means curtailing work,
It really is too bad.

THERE ARE FOUR THINGS that God wants us to do about missions: (1)—**Look** (John 4:35; Matt. 9:36); (2)—Pray (Matt. 9:37, 38; Isaiah 59:16); (3)—**Give** (Rom. 12:1; Luke 14:33; Rom. 12:13); (4)—**Go** (Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; Isaiah 6:8).

Careless church finance is a sin (1 Cor. 4:2). God is depending on our stewardship to help meet the needs of others (Luke 12:42). Thrifty people should not complain of being too poor to support missions (Matt. 10:8; 1 Peter 4:10). Being fairly liberal with ourselves and our children is no excuse for poor or no stewardship unto God (Matt. 6:33). We cannot afford to dissolve partnership with God when we think we are too hard up to pay Him what we owe (Luke 16:2, 3).

What's that you say? That I'm to blame
If mission churches close?
That I'm responsible to God
For other people's woes?

I never thought of it that way.
I guess perhaps you're right.
Here, take this check—the car can wait.
Next Sunday? Yes. Good night!

—Alice M. Rogers.

Let us be prompt with God by giving regularly (1 Cor. 16:2). The Lord's portion is to be taken out and given to Him first (1 Kings 17:13, 14); Exodus 13:12). God wants the giving to come cheerfully from our hearts (2 Cor. 9:7). Let us give, remembering that God is able to supply all our needs (2 Cor. 9:8). To be stingy with God is to be shortsighted with ourselves (2 Cor. 9:6). If we take care of the Lord's business He will take care of ours ((Luke 6:38; Mal. 3:11). To rob God is to rob one's self (Gal. 6:7, 8).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for September 16, 1956

CHRIST AMONG THE CHURCHES

Lesson: Revelation 1:9-11, 17-18; 3:14-22

AFTER THE RESURRECTION, and just before returning to the Father, Jesus made this promise to His disciples: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20). Indeed this was a strange thing to say just prior to leaving them! How could He leave them and still be with them?

The Theologian, speaking of God, refers to His Omnipresence—that is, His power and ability to be present everywhere at once. Our finite minds cannot wholly grasp this tremendous truth, but we do believe it for it is taught in God's Word.

Because Jesus Christ is God He could declare to His followers His ever-abiding presence with them regardless of their geographic location. John the Beloved, writer of the Gospel and the three Epistles bearing his name, was given a Revelation of his blessed Lord. He was instructed: "What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia" (1:11). In this Revelation the Glorified Saviour refers to Himself as "He that walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks" (2:1). The first chapter made known to John "the mystery of the . . . seven golden candlesticks . . . The seven candlesticks which thou seest are the seven churches" (1:20).

In other words, He who spoke to John and his fellow-disciples on Mount Olivet and promised to be always with them, now reveals Himself as the One who walks with His people among the churches.

We say how wonderful to know that Jesus Christ is present in our churches! Indeed it is. But may we be reminded of the solemn import of this truth.

Jesus Christ—the Impeccable One, the Righteous Judge, the Just One, the One who cannot look with favor upon sin in any form—walks among the churches. He sees in the pews the actions of carnal men who bear His name;

e listens to proud men in the pulpit chant and rant ıeir own opinions, while all the time the Gospel goes ıpreached; He feels the coldness of dead orthodoxy; e senses the lifelessness of those who profess to know ıd love Him! With all this can He be pleased? God for-d!

The Church of Laodicea clearly reflects the Church of oday. How did He speak to it?

"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot." ukewarm! Rev. H. M. Freligh makes this comment: 'hey were not frigid but nauseatingly insipid. They ere not hot enough to generate any steam. They had) power. The word smug would describe them. How ıe Lord hates such an attitude."

The Laodicean Church thought itself rich. Christ, however, had this to say about it: "And knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

In spite of the indifference and self-complacency of the church—in spite of the fact that it was spiritually poverty-strickened—the Saviour gives this church, and any church who desires it, the opportunity to repent and come back to Him. May we hear His invitation this day and respond to it:

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me."

;unday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

'HE CHURCH BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

MORE AND MORE Protestant denominations and churches are establishing Church Boards of Chris-an Education as the means to fulfill better their teach-g ministry in the church.

Why Have Such a Board?

(1) The command, "Let all things be done decently ıd in order."

(2) To insure a vital program, eliminating overlap-ng of activities and guarding against overlooking cer-in imperative phases of Christian teaching.

(3) To bring unity into all that is being done: Sun-ıy school, junior church, vacation Bible school, Broth-'hood, Sisterhood, camps, etc.

(4) Continuity of programs can better be assured if nal authority for such lies with a duly elected board.

(5) Policies can be established and maintained.

(6) A board is needed to handle delicate situations here change in personnel, procedure, etc., must be ade.

(7) The church needs a board to further loyalty to er, rather than small groups here and there promoting ıdividual, and often selfish, devotion.

Duties of the Board

(1) **Plan:** the general educational policy of the church; ıe specific details to achieve the general policy; the pro-sion of ways to accomplish the long-range goals; the udget for the year; and the report of the year's Chris-an education activities which is presented at the annual ısiness meeting of the church.

(2) **Correlate:** and co-ordinate the educational program with the total program and ministry of the church.

(3) **Supervise:** the grading and promotion of pupils; the keeping of adequate records of progress; the details of housing and equipment needs and changes; the order-ing of curriculum material; and the planning for special seasonal days and occasions, activities, and year-round program.

(4) **Supervise personnel:** in the enlisting of personnel; in either the appointment or nomination of all depart-ment superintendents, officers, and teachers; in giving appropriate recognition to lay leadership; and in pro-viding a year-round program of teacher training.

Qualification of Members

A Board member should be a member of the church, one who is a dedicated Christian. He should be willing to acquaint himself with the latest educational methods and materials. He should be willing to spend and be spent.

How Should This Board Be Established?

(1) The preferred plan is at the annual business meet-ing of the church, thus giving it the same important status as other boards elected in a democratic way by the church. Elected for a three-year period, one-third each year.

(2) The executive committee of the Sunday school could form the Board of Christian Education.

(3) This Board could be elected by the Official Board of the church.

(Reprinted from "Growing Trends in Christian Edu-cation," published, 1955, by The Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church. Copies available upon request.)

Editor's note: We are glad to welcome Jerry Flora as a regular contributor to this column. He replaces Dr. Joseph R. Shultz, who has resigned as Field Represen-tative of the Sunday School Board, to take up the pas-torate of the Washington, D. C., Brethren Church.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

HEAR WHAT RAY SAY

BRETHREN YOUTH have decided to look two directions in carrying out their project for '56-'57. Following the established practice of being mission minded the youth are making their work felt both home and abroad.

Sarasota is the home field that Brethren Youth are working for this year. Realizing the need for a church in that city, the youth have pledged to raise $3,333.33 for our work there. Brethren Youth have an interest in the pastor at Sarasota, Lyle Lichtenberger. He is a former Ambassador, and well known by the young people.

Speaking of Ambassadors brings us to the other project. Convinced of the need to work for peace and to lift our eyes in new directions, Brethren Youth is contributing to the Ambassador trip to Europe in the summer of 1957.

The mission interest of the Brethren Youth should challenge the whole Brotherhood to look up and look out to new horizons for Jesus Christ.

Ray Aspinall, Project Chairman.

DAFFYNITION

Rev. "Ed" Miller of Maurertown, Virginia, enlightened us on the latest musical craze. He says, "Rock and Roll Music sounds like a truck load of empty milk cans hitting a truck load of ducks."

RESOLVED BY BRETHREN YOUTH

Whereas, by the grace of our omnipotent God, we have been privileged to meet in this 1956 Brethren Youth Conference—Be it resolved that we express our deep gratitude to God our Father for blessing Brethren Youth so bountifully during the past year.

That we express our thanks to the Executive Committee and the Youth Board for the exceptional program presented, and for the co-operation and the willingness of the young people. The spiritual strengthening received from "Seeking Divine Help" was a blessing.

That we extend our thanks to Dr. J. Garber Drushal for his timely and inspiring messages to the Youth Conference, and voice our appreciation for the enlightening vesper services.

That we sincerely thank Ashland College for the use of their facilities.

That we thank our local churches for their spiritual and financial support in our project. We pray God's guidance in the distribution of this gift.

That we rededicate ourselves to the service of our Lord Jesus Christ and will follow in His steps with love and devotion. That we strive to become zealous in testifying in word and life before all men.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Bowman,
Gail Gavlock,
Richard Kuns.

FEETSBALL GAME

Footballs will be filling the air and feet will be dig ging the turf on the Manchester College football field o September 15th. Manchester College, in North Manches ter, Indiana, will be host to Ashland College in this gric iron clash on that date.

INDIANA BRETHREN YOUTH are especially invite to attend the game, beginning at 1:30, to see thei school's football team from Ashland College in actio Furthermore, since this game is being played in Nort Manchester, Rev. Henry Bates has invited all Brethre Youth to his church for a short fellowship hour wit refreshments after the game. A. C. coach, Bob Brownso has consented to stop by for a few choice remarks (pr vided Ashland wins) and it looks like a swell time t gether. HEY HOOSIERS! I'm looking forward to seein you in our special seating section. Make the final a rangements for your gang to come to the FEETSBAL GAME now.

LIMOUSINES LOAD FOR LAUREL

While the Indianians are watching the football gan at Manchester, the Pennsylvanians will be attending YOUTH RETREAT on September 15 and 16. The si is Laurel Hill State Park in Somerset County and a Brethren Youth in the Keystone State are strongly urg to attend this special opportunity for instruction and i spiration.

Chuck Kraft, missionary candidate to Nigeria, is goi to be one of the visiting speakers and leaders. Workir Brethren Youth need to be trained just the same as wor ers in any other field. Realize the importance of bei well equipped, then do something about it by coming Laurel Hill on Sept. 15, 16. Load your limousines f Laurel.

WE DID—BUT DO WE

Every day at National Brethren Youth Conference spent ten minutes in special prayer for our Brethr Youth work. It's bringing answers. Do you still pr for Brethren Youth at home? Why not? Do it yet t day.

HERE'S THE WINDUP and . . .

THE PITCH which brings with it the last leg of t Ambassador Quartet schedule for 1956.

September 10	Cerro Gordo
September 11	Flora
September 12	Peru
September 13	Akron, Indiana
September 14	Roann
September 15	1:30—Ashland-Manchester, football game
September 15	7:30—Warsaw
September 16	A. M.—South Bend
September 16	P. M. Elkhart
September 17	Goshen
September 18	Nappanee
September 19	Bryan

If you will check past schedules, you will know qu well that much traveling has been done by the Amb sadors—Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryla and Virginia. The receptions given by these churc both in attendance and financial support, is very grat ing and deserving of our sincere thanks which we g strongly.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

IF WE ONLY UNDERSTOOD

If we knew the cares and trials,
Knew the efforts all in vain,
And the bitter disappointments;
Understood the loss and gain
Would the grim, eternal roughness
Seem, I wonder, just the same?
Should we help where now we hinder?
Should we pity where now we blame?

Ah: we judge each other harshly,
Knowing not life's hidden force;
Knowing not the fount of action
Is less turbid at its source;
Seeing not amid the evil
All the golden grains of good,
And we'd love each other better
If we only understood.

Could we judge all deeds by motives
That surround each other's lives;
See the naked heart and spirit,
Know what spur the action gives—
Often we should find it better,
Purer than we judge we should;
And we'd love each other better
If we only understood.

Rudyard Kipling.

Thy Will Be Done

Dear Lord, it's not in larger things
I find it hard to say
"Thy Will" be done, but in the small
And trivial things each day.

When heavy trials overwhelm,
Or clouds are dark above,
I'm willing to be guided by
Thy never failing love.

But there are little things I do
And words I like to say,
And from the road where Thou dost lead
Short paths where I would stray.

And there are things I'd reach for, Lord,
Nor wait to learn Thy will,
And there are things I would possess,
In haste, and thoughtless still.

I am so disappointed when
The small things fail to run
Along the ways I planned: ah, then
Teach me . . . "Thy Will" be done.

Submitted by
Mrs. Walter Lichtenberger,
Elkhart, Indiana

HEARING AND PRAYING

Two young men who were members of the same church, were in conversation about their pastor when one asked the other, "are you interested in our pastor's preaching?" "Yes," replied the other, "I am indeed; I derive instruction and profit from his discourses." "Well," said his friend, "I am sure I can't feel that way. I am very far from being interested in his labors or getting any benefit from them." "Perhaps," rejoined the other, "you don't pray for our minister, do you?" "No, I confess I do not." "Well, it strikes me that your neglect of this duty explains your want of interest in his ministry. Let me urge you to remember him daily in your closet supplications, and I rather think the more you are exercised in praying for him, the more you will be blessed in hearing from him." The faultfinder took the advice, and some months afterward he met his friend and stated the results. He had given his pastor a large place in his petitions, and meanwhile his minister had taken a large place in his affections; and if the minister derived no benefit from his prayers, he derived great benefit from his pastor's preaching.—The Lighted Pathway.

CRICKMORE-DENNIS. Miss Marilyn Ann Dennis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elda Dennis, Roanoke, Indiana, became the bride of Carl S. Crickmore, of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, in a double ring ceremony in the Roanoke Brethren Church, Saturday, July 28, 1956, at 2:30 P. M. The ceremony was solemnized by the bride's pastor, Rev. Paul D. Tinkel. About 150 guests were present. The couple will be at home at 840 Huster Ave., Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Paul D. Tinkel.

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N. Manchester, Ind.

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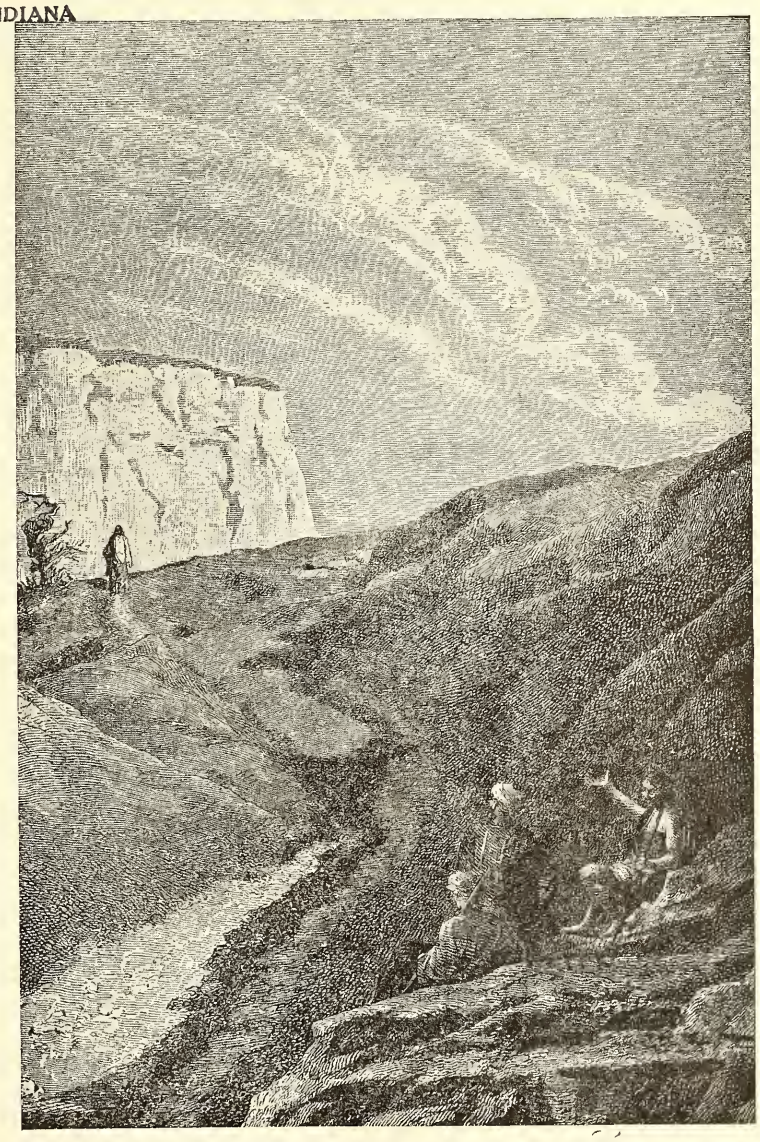

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

BETHLEHEM AND MT. OLIVE, VIRGINIA. Brother John F. Locke writes: "The Ambassador Quartet was interviewed on one of the popular daily feature programs of radio station WSVA, Harrisonburg, Virginia. The interview and their music made excellent publicity for the Quartet's appearance at Bethlehem and Mt. Olive Brethren Churches."

"The Quartet was heard by us three times," continues Brother Locke, "and they seemed to get better with every program. They are doing a great work for the Brethren Denomination."

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. The Harmony Boys' Quartet from Chambersburg, presented a program in the Wayne Heights Church the evening of September 9th.

The evening of September 16th will be observed as Bible Night, at which time Brother N. V. Leatherman will have an interesting display from the American Bible Society. Plans for Bible Study for the year ahead will also be given.

Men's Night will be observed September 23rd. The men of the church will have charge of the service; a film on the Life of Paul is to be shown.

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. Brother Percy C. Miller reports the reception of seven new members into the church on August 19th.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates has recently begun the publication of a parish monthly newspaper entitled, "Brethren Briefs." Brother Bates comments in the first issue, "With our constantly growing program, and with our increasing interest in people and events, it is becoming impossible to print all that should be printed in our weekly bulletin . . . "

Brother Bates was the speaker at the last of the summer Union services, held August 26th.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. We are glad to note that Brother E. J. Black, who had been ill during part of the summer, was able to be back in his pulpit on August 26th. Let us continue to pray for his full restoration to health and strength.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. A new pulpit Bible, the gift of Mrs. Barbara Shoup and children, in memory of husband and father, C. W. O. James C. Shoup, was dedicated o September 2nd. Mr. Shoop died on February 16, 195 while serving his country in the USAF.

COMING EVENTS

MEXICO, INDIANA. Rally Day and Homecoming—**September 30th**—All day meeting with basket dinner a noon. Rev. Henry Bates, of North Manchester, afternoo speaker. Rev. Wayne Swihart, Pastor.

HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA. MT. OLIVE BRETH REN. Revival Services—**September 11-23**—Rev. J. I Hamel, Evangelist; Rev. John F. Locke, Pastor.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Special Speaker—**Septem ber 23rd, 7:30 P. M.**—The Honorable Theodore R. Mc Keldin, Governor of the State of Maryland; Rev. Free man Ankrum, Pastor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETH REN. Rally Day, **morning of September 30th;** Homecom ing, **evening of September 30th.** Rev. N. V. Leatherma Pastor.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO. GRETNA BRETHRE Rally Day—**September 30th.**—Rev. George W. Solomo Pastor.

This 'n' That

By the Editor

NOTICE

We are reminding pastors once again that if you ha moved, or are planning on moving this fall, to be certa the Editor of Publications has your new address. It tak only a 2c post card to make certain that we have yo new address. The Brethren Annual, which will come you next month, should contain your correct address. you have not previously notified us, do so soon. T Annual is a tremendous job, both in compilation o material, and in printing; your cooperation is grea appreciated.

Secretaries of the various Auxiliaries whose minut usually appear in the Annual are asked to get the minut of their General Conference sessions to the Editor as so as possible, in order to facilitate an early publication of t Annual.

The Editor's Pulpit

"Face Lifting"

IN MANY CIRCLES we hear of "face liftings" taking place. Entire buildings are often given 'face liftings." Brick walls are sand blasted to restore the original appearance of new bricks. Even the simple matter of repainting a small house is often called a "face lifting." Addition of shrubbery, a new side-walk, etc., often comes in the same category. Automobile companies, instead of redesigning their products from year to year, will often change the style of the grill, add a piece of chrome here or there, and call it a new model.

"Face lifting" then, we can conclude, is a process of changing that which is, so that it has a newer, fresher appearance. We can safely say it is a new and pleasing appearance of that which needed a change. Perhaps you would express it otherwise, but for our purposes here, it suffices.

So, we ask the question, "As a Christian, how long has it been since you have had your face lifted?" Before you start writing letters to the Editor saying that you don't need face lifting, consider that we are not talking about the kind of face lifting practiced by surgeons. We are talking about that which we can perform on our own spiritual lives—our attitudes, or out-look on life, etc..

We've heard of the person who, when someone said to him, "It's a nice day today," replied, "Yes, but it could rain tomorrow." Well, it possibly could. It could even rain yet "today." But sunshine and rain we must have. This man should have said, "Yes, it's a beautiful day; this is the day the Lord hath made." He should say it even if it was pouring rain. This Editor has many times, whether the day was hot, cold, rainy, snowy, or whatever, greeted people with, "It's a lovely day," or "It's a beautiful day." Try it, you'll be surprised at the answers you will get.

Yet, with a proper spiritual face lifting, no day will be dreary, for Christ is there to lift us up. Every day will have its bright hours. We can show our face lifting by doing our very best to make other people happy on such days. Too, when stress and strain appear in family, church, or social relationships, we can show our spiritual face lifting, by expressing a calm, Christian spirit with others.

Face lifting, spiritually, goes further than that. It enters into the field of how we feel toward others. Malice, hatred, old sores, minds long on memory and short on forgiveness, can give our heart and our appearance that "down-in-the-mouth" look. It causes spiritual wrinkles and ages us spiritually long before our time.

How do we get a spiritual face lifting? The Psalmist says, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." The very process of lifting up our eyes will do a lot towards face lifting. In Nehemiah 8:10, we read, "For the joy of the Lord is your strength." We shall see new visions of service, we will have old visions clarified. Scales of bitterness, intolerance and selfishness shall fall from our eyes. Face lifting is a guaranteed aid for many troubles, spiritual face lifting, that is. Such a wonderful process shows on our physical appearance, too. Remember when it was said of the disciples that it appeared that they had been with Jesus? It will operate the same way for us, too.

There are rewards and satisfactions, too. Our youngest boy knows that if he does good work in school, he will get his paper marked with a "happy face." This is quite an incentive, and as Christians all of us have a comparable incentive. A happy, joyous "walking with him in the light," experience is ours when our spiritual mirror tells us we have had our spiritual "face lifting."—W. S. B.

Moderator's Address 1956 Pennsylvania District Conference

LET THE CHURCH BE THE CHURCH

Rev. Lyle I. Lichtenberger

PART II

(Part I appeared in September 1st Evangelist)

Colonel Lewis G. Wells, the President of the Wells Organization, three weeks ago made the following statement in New York: "As long as there is a requirement for money, spending, and people working together, there is a need for organization—and organization needs business methods." He also made the following observations concerning the unbusiness-like methods in our churches—I quote—

"1. Our boards do not care, by that I mean, plan, for tomorrow.

"2. The administrative ends of our churches are warped —records are generally poorly kept both in Sunday Schools and churches.

"3. The office equipment stinks and is sloppy." Unquote.

(2) In general, although we preach against materialism from the pulpit, the policies of our churches are run by the dollar sign. The average church member will give as little as he dares rather than dare to give more than he can afford. 98% of all church budgets are frozen—they seldom change from year to year—and where change is evident it is seldom above what we naturally expect during inflation. Even then many of our budgets are nothing more than financial statements. And when we consider it is less than one dollar per member per week, it is frozen indeed. Is this not materialism pure and simple? What our churches practice speaks far louder than the pious words of their members. While we are on this subject let's consider another point—we believe in evangelism, in missions, in cross-bearing—how can we say we believe it when we do not practice it? The Southern Baptists, one of the fastest growing churches in the world today, say that "a church must give away at least 51% of its income—if not it is playing down the spiritual." In other words, Brethren, our churches must set the standard. We cannot expect any more from our members than our churches are willing to practice. Our churches are spending over three-fourths of their income on themselves and less than one-fourth is spent outside the church. Brethren, a church can be covetous, too.

(3) If I were not sure of the following I would not be making this address.

1. I am sure our problem is not a dollar problem There is plenty of money in our churches. The problem is an educational problem.

2. Our churches want to follow the will of God.

3. Our boards will plan if shown how.

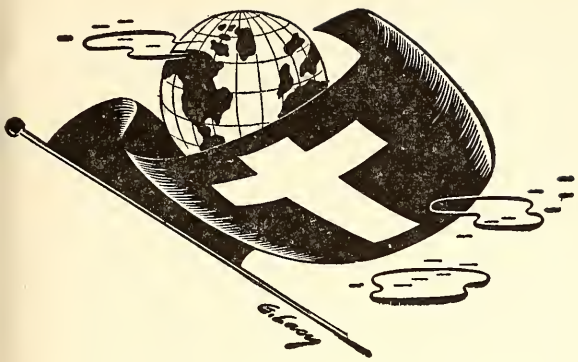
4. Our people will give, they will sacrifice, if the approach is made on a spiritual level rather than on a dollar level.

Therefore, where does the problem lie? I enumerate the following for your consideration.

1. We must quit looking for the easy way out and trying to find short cuts. It is hard for me to imagine our Savior having set His face to go to Jerusalem looking for an easy way out or praying for a short cut.

2. We dare not capitulate to the weaknesses, fears, and phobias, of the least competent men on our boards. The work must go on—Now it is day, the night cometh When disagreements arise, we must go on as Christians with love and understanding.

3. We must recognize that token giving follows token interest and vice versa. The token giver must be made to recognize his sin for the horrible and damning thing it really is. The Wells Organization defines a token giver as any giver giving less than one dollar per week for



very $1,000 of annual income. In other words, if I am aking $3,000 per year and am giving less than $3 er week, I am a token giver. You see this is far less ıan a tithe, but the majority of our members are giving ır less than even a token offering. The following obervations have been made by those who know—

1. Token givers do not vote positively. They are always fraid it will cost them more.

2. They are seldom interested in what they ought to e giving, but how little they can give.

3. Their giving does not increase voluntarily. A good ermon on tithing is of little value—they've heard it all efore anyway.

4. They are the ones who high-pressure the program f the church. They do it in several ways, the most ommon being:

a. Procrastination—I'll do it next year

b. Organizing cliques—to get rid of the preacher, hange the officers, or just to pout

c. Get emotional—threaten to quit the church

d. Complacency.

(4) We must unfreeze our budgets. But don't go forvard trying to convince your people how much they hould give to reach the budget but by showing your eople their need to give. Unless the family unit is giving nough to the Kingdom of God to command interest in he family budget the family has little real interest in heir church, their God or the Kingdom. Christians need o give until it hurts or they have missed the greatest lessings the Christian life affords.

Let's now review what we have said before we go ıto our third point—that of Christian Growth.

1. We have said there is work to be done now.

2. The Church is Christ's Church, therefore we must o what He has commanded us to do.

3. A church cannot rightfully call itself a church unss it does His bidding in all things.

4. The easy-going attitude within our churches finds ttle comparison in the early church.

5. We are learning today what heresy really is—in espects to Christian discipline and stewardship.

6. Daily prayer and reading of scripture, weekly worhip, giving a definite portion of our income, giving a pecific portion of time to others, making one's work a alling and regular study are but a minimum standard f discipline.

7. Our stewardship of possessions is deplorable—an average of one dollar per week per member.

8. We encourage such giving by our slipshod methods of handling the business within our own churches.

9. We have allowed the materialism of our age to creep into our churches until our every move is governed by the dollar sign, and our budgets remain frozen.

10. We encourage selfishness in our members by keeping more for ourselves in our local churches than what we give to the over-all work of the Kingdom.

11. The problem is not without an answer—Our people want to do what's right, they will plan and they will give—but they must be shown how.

Now, what of this matter of Christian growth? With this point I would like to get on a more optimistic level. I do this because I do not want anyone to feel our whole program is up the creek without a paddle. We are going somewhere. Our statistics in all phases are generally increasing but there is very little for which we can be proud. The amazing thing to me is that with no more forward progress than we have made how we have kept from sliding backwards. But no matter how or why, we have kept a steady keel.

One of our world leaders recently said that "if the church has anything to say for this age let it say it now." Is this not a call for just what our Lord says—"We must work the works of Him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work." The day is so short that if we have anything to say we must say it now. Tomorrow may not be ours. Christ said—"I am the Light of the world"—and also "Ye are the light of the world." We must work. In and through Christ we are to illuminate the way, change night into day. No, indeed, it's not child play. Can the Brethren Church do it? It most assuredly can—if it will!

What have we to offer? Are our baptism and communion the only things that make us Brethren? I agree these are the most evident of our particular tradition, but feel we have neglected to lay hold of one of our greatest assets. Our forefathers, with far greater wisdom than what we often give them credit, built our church —doctrine, government and all—on the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. We have no creed, our doctrines find various expressions, we have little central authority, our conferences seldom take decisive stands on controversial issues and when you try to pin-point what Brethren really believe on most issues it would take the work of a lifetime. When and if the answer was had you would find that time has changed it all. To those viewing our church from the outside they would suspicion we are not a denomination at all, but just a hodgepodge of individual churches called by the same name—much like the Southern Baptists. We have heard considerably in the past few years the question: just what does the Brethren Church believe and practice? As yet I have not heard an answer that has satisfied the inquirer. With your permission I would like to fail to answer the question also.

I would like to quote two paragraphs from the "Horizons," June 19, 1955 from an article entitled Government by Brotherhood. "There is probably no group in Christendom that has a stronger sense of denomina-

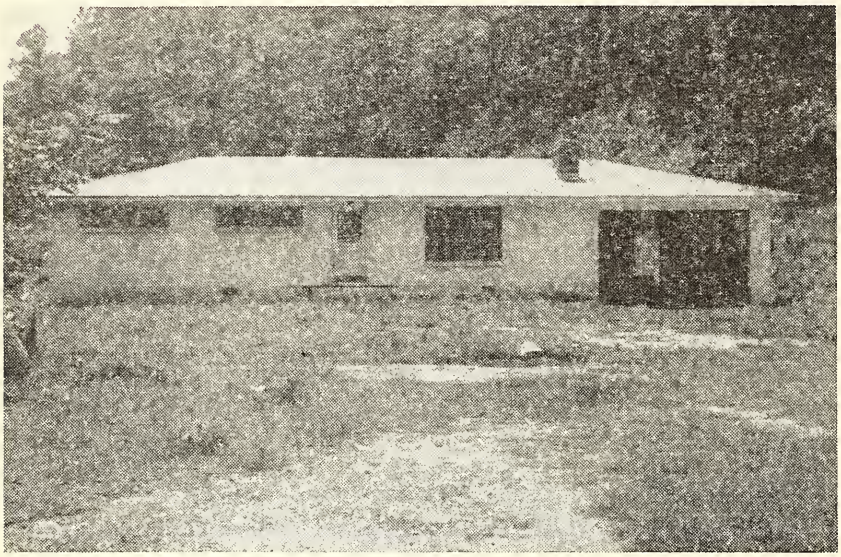
(Continued on Page 8)

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
524 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

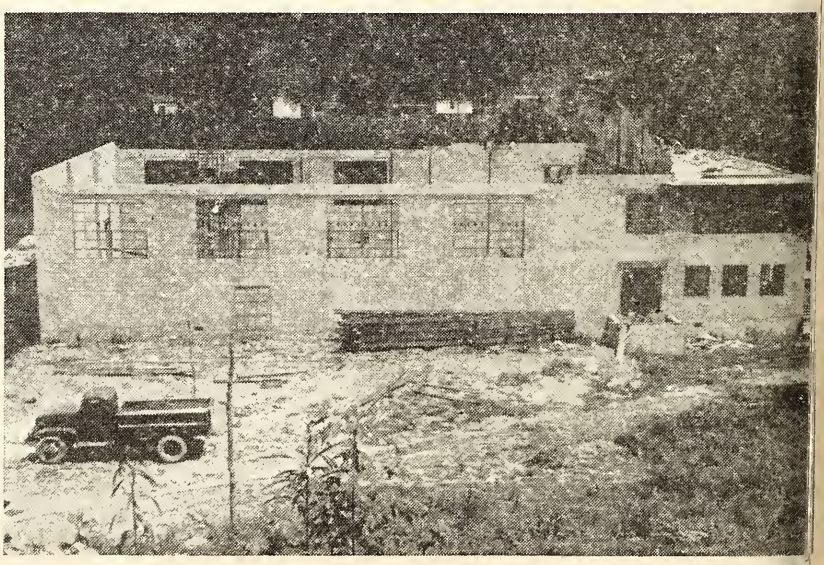
Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistan

HERE THEY ARE



The new parsonage at Los Creek, Kentucky. Rev. and Mr George Drushal moved into it re cently.

The pictures on this page portray the splendid amount of work that has been accomplished at Lost Creek, Kentucky, under the direction of Dorman Ronk, during the past year.



The Classroom building under construction—as it looked on August 7th.

THE NEW SEVEN-ROOM, ranch-type parsonage, made of concrete blocks, is now being occupied by the Drushals. This fine, modern house contains a kitchen, living room, three bedrooms, study and two-car garage. In the living room is a lovely fireplace, made of nat stone, cut from the surrounding hills. The entire str ture reveals careful planning, besides skilful and ing ious work. Many who have seen it express surprise t t

such an excellent house could have been built so economically. Brethren are invited to visit Lost Creek and see it.

The **Classroom building** too is progressing satisfactorily. Because of the connotation of the expression, we won't say they have been "raising the roof" at Lost Creek, but that is literally true. The roof is already on the Classroom portion of the building, and steel trusses are being placed on the gymnasium area. This type of work is quite difficult and requires special skill; hence it must be done with great care. We are all eager for the time when this long-awaited structure can be put to use.

Conference Representatives

Lost Creek was well represented at General Conference this year. Besides Reverend and Mrs. Drushal and Dorman, Joan and Bruce Ronk, the following members from Lost Creek attended also: Mrs. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Markham, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mullins. We congratulate these people upon their interest in their church and in its relationship to the entire denomination. We hope others will follow their leading in coming conferences.

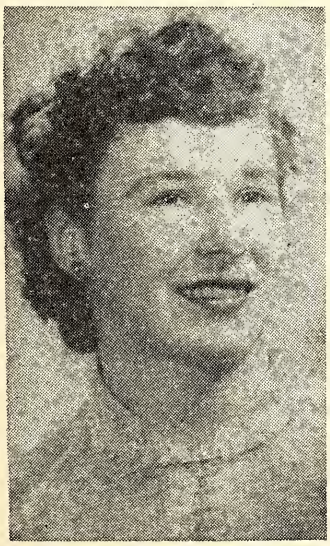
FORWARD LOOKING PROGRAM

In keeping with their progressive program, and in recognition of Dorman Ronk's performance as a builder at Lost Creek, the Missionary Board is employing him full-time for further construction work. He will remain at Lost Creek until the proposed projects are finished; then he will be available as a consultant in planning new churches or other necessary structures, wherever or whenever he is needed. If at any time construction work is not in progress or in prospect, he will be available for help in the Missionary Board offices. We are all gratefull for his services.

NEWS BULLETIN: **Nancy Eileen Ronk** (weighing 8 pounds 5¾ ounces) arrived at University Hospital in Columbus September 7. She will go along back to Lost Creek soon with her family, Dorman, Joan and Bruce. Welcome, Nancy Eileen, we hope you will make your family as happy as they deserve to be.

New Brethren Appointees to Faculty of Ashland College

DR. GLENN L. CLAYTON, President of Ashland College and Seminary, has announced the appointment of two members of the Brethren Church to the college faculty.



Ruby Arlene Tripp

Ruby Arlene Tripp, Milledgeville, Illinois, has been appointed to the position of Assistant Professor in Business Administration. She received her B.S. in Education at Illinois State Normal University in 1954 and her MBA from the University of Michigan in 1955. During the past year she has been a junior analyst for the Dresser Industries, Inc., at Dallas, Texas. She is a member of the Milledgeville Brethren Church.

Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith

The Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith will be Professor of English Bible. A graduate of Ashland College in 1931 and of the Seminary in 1934, Rev. Klingensmith has also been an active pastor in the Brethren Church. From 1940 to 1945, he was General Secretary of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church. He resigned his pastorate of the Washington, D. C., Church, to take up his appointment at Ashland.

Rev. Klingensmith, his wife and daughter are living at 921 Grant Street.

LET THE CHURCH BE THE CHURCH

(Continued from Page 5)

tional solidarity than have the Brethren. When Paul Robinson and family were driving across the country, they stopped at a service station in some God-forsaken place (i. e., non-Brethren). They there met another family carload which was discovered also to be Brethren. It was immediately arranged that the two families get together for a meal and visit. A Methodist friend to whom Brother Robinson recounted the incident just couldn't get it; why should merely being members of the same denomination bring on so violent a reaction?

"The truth is that Brethren are not just members of the same church; they are brethren. The true Dunker's primary membership is in the brotherhood and only incidentally in the congregation where he happens to reside. Ours is a brotherhood of individuals, not a fellowship of churches.

"Thus we have the rather paradoxical picture of a church that is widely heterogeneous as regards polity, theology and practice and yet strongly homogeneous as regards social identity and personal relationships within the group. And it is precisely this strange combination that constitutes the genius of Brethren church government."

Thus the problem to the outsider. We have seemingly little to tie us together in regards to polity, theology and practice and yet within the group our bonds are strong in regards to social identity and personal relationships. True, it is not something you can put your finger on and say now you have it, but it is nevertheless just as real—if not more so. It is completely spiritual. This, to me, is the genius of the Brethren Church. It's a factor too long forgotten and in some respects allowed to be played down by permitting men behind the pulpit who were not truly a part of the Brethren family or by men who have forgotten that we are a Brotherhood and not a Presbytery.

Perhaps one thing is still missing out of this discussion. Wherein have we any unity? The fact is that underlying all our diversity the Brethren have a deep and basic Christ-orientation. We are Christ-centered. Not denominational centered. We have committed ourselves to Him as Master and Lord of our church. The New Testament is our creed—from it we derive His teachings and instructions. Our whole faith is dependent on our seeking and obeying the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We are committed to seek the mind of Christ—in this we find our solidarity.

But, you say, is not every Christian committed to the same? Yes, every true Christian is. But the Brethren Church, as it was founded, made it a definite personal committment and refused to violate this freedom. The customary view is that government must keep the solidarity. Some say that government is necessary to keep the solidarity and encourage uniformity. Those who resist are disciplined.

To the early Brethren, however, true brotherhood came about by being in Christ—thus a gift of God's grace. All the legislating in the world will never make a Brotherhood, but when we begin with a true brotherhood, things are bound to bring unanimity and conformity. We believe that Jesus lives and works, and we know that the Holy Spirit will guide individual minds and hearts when they seek His will. There is a place for excommunication in the Brethren Church but only when the individual is judged to no longer be seeking the mind of Christ. There are various instances in the history of the Brethren movement where this has kept the church united.

In the early years of our movement, "a faction led by Conrad Beissel pulled off to form one of the weirdest cults in religious history." It was heresy, pure and simple, and a split was inevitable. Since they pulled out on their own accord the Brethren had little they could really do. But, perhaps, the strangest thing that happened was that in the face of flareups of resentment and contention the bonds of brotherhood remained firm. Occasional visits were made, letters written, friendships although strained, were kept.

"And how did this policy of 'brotherhood at all costs' pay off? Well, if nothing else had happened, to avert no one knows how much ill-will and hatred was an accomplishment of real value. Beissel's letter to Becker belongs to the church as a priceless testimony to the power of brotherly forbearance. And what is more, many of the Brethren who joined Beissel were shortly disillusioned and so took steps to return to the fold. In this number, among other leaders, was Alexander Mack, Jr. who went on to become one of the most prominent elders of the colonial era. If the church, in the interests of discipline, had condemned the Beisselite defectors as heretics (which they were), this return would have been made very difficult and we would have lost such leaders as Alexander Mack—to his own detriment as well as to ours." ("Horizon," June 19, 1955, Government by Brotherhood).

To the contrary, our own experience in 1882 was the result of action which demanded conformity at all costs. Brotherhood was sacrificed. The split occurred. But we must agree that this action was an exception and not a general practice.

Now, I am not so blind as to think that all of our churches agree even at this point, but I do feel that this Government by Brotherhood is the genius of the Brethren Church. This is the reason I am so concerned over the heresy in our midst concerning Personal Discipline and Stewardship. A church whose whole foundation is determined by the individual member seeking the mind of Christ dare not play down the individual's spiritual responsibilities. There is not a problem which we face as Brethren that could not be solved if we would earnestly and with our whole being seek the mind of Christ. The Holy Spirit will guide if we will but give Him the opportunity.

Now, for the one and only recommendation this Moderator has to make:

The Pennsylvania District Conference plan a program of stewardship instruction and training for the churches of this district, this program to be planned by a committee comprised of both laity and ministers. The work of this committee to begin immediately.

I thank you for your patience and may we find ourselves worthy of the Lord's richest blessings.

Berlin, Pennsylvania.

REV. VIRGIL E. MEYER ACCEPTS NEW POST AT ASHLAND COLLEGE

R. GLENN L. CLAYTON, President of Ashland College, has announced the appointment of Rev. Virgil . Meyer to a newly created post on the Staff of Ashand College.

Rev. V. E. Meyer

The Rev. Virgil E. Meyer will be the Director of Church nd Alumni Relations and Field Representative. A gradiate of Ashland College in 1939, Rev. Meyer has been a astor in the Brethren Church having served churches at Gratis, Ohio; Waterloo, Iowa, and just recently resigned is pastorate of the Nappanee, Indiana, Church, to accept he Ashland College appointment. He has also been modrator of several district conferences of the Brethren Church, was moderator of General Conference in 1954, nd was president of the National Brethren Youth Board rom 1948-1956.

Rev. Meyer, his wife and family have moved to Ashand, where they are living at 1022 Grant Street.

In Memoriam

POWELL. Mrs. Minnie Frances Powell, widow of Quintus A. Powell, was born Mar. 26, 1882, and died Aug. 10, 1956. Had long been one of the most faithful and devout members of the Mt. Olive Brethren Church. She reared two daughters and six sons. Funeral services were held in her church on August 12th. Officiating ministers were the undersigned and the Rev. Douglas Ebert, of the McGaheysville M. E. church. Interment, Mt. Olive cemetery.

John F. Locke, Pastor, Mt. Olive.

* * *

MEYERHOEFFER. Milford Vernon Meyerhoeffer was born Feb. 22, 1903, and died after a lingering illness, Aug. 29, 1956. Survived by wife, a daughter and two young sons. Was a member of the Mt. Olive Brethren Church, but after marriage, attended and worked in the Mt. Olivet Congregational Christian church where the services were held on Sept. 2, by his Pastor, the undersigned. He was a man who bore great suffering with patience and admirable fortitude. His body was laid to rest in the McGaheysville cemetery.

John F. Locke, Pastor.

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Note — Boy's Brotherhood

Your book **"Jungles Ahead!"** is now in stock, so get your order in early. The price: $1.25.

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524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio

OLDEST LIVING BRETHREN?:

Editor's Note: Pictured here is Mrs. Mary Elnora Peters, a member of the Brethren Church at Lanark, Illinois. The accompanying article by Pastor Francis Berkshire tells of her life and work at Lanark. As near as we can tell, Mrs. Peters is probably the oldest living Brethren Church member.

* * * *

ON JULY 13, 1861 when the town of Lanark was staked out and a flag pole erected as the center of the town, the Lanark First Brethren Church's oldest living member was born in a neighboring town, Brookville.

Mrs. Mary Elnora Peters has seen the town of Lanark grow during a period of 95 years. During this time, she has commented, there has been much change in the town. Particularly, that many of her childhood friends are gone.

The people of Lanark know her as "Mother" Peters. In 1878 she married George Peters, and was the mother to five children. Three of the four living children are active members in the First Brethren Church here. For fifty years she and her husband lived on a farm near Lanark. Her mother and father came from Pennsylvania.

It is an inspiration to all of us when Mother Peters enters the sanctuary of the church and worships with us. Her membership in our church began with baptism by Rev. B. T. Burnworth.

Each week she answers by letter-writing many correspondents. She also sews and crochets. Her alert memory and quick humor draws many visits by her friends. Her good memory can recall vividly many interesting incidents that have transpired during the past 95 years, which reminds us of Horatius Bonar's verse,

MRS. MARY ELNORA PETERS

"He liveth long who liveth well;
All else is being flung away;
He liveth longest who can tell
Of true things truly done each day."

Rev. H. Francis Berkshire,
Lanark, Illinois.

REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE OAK HILL Brethren Church, Oak Hill, W. Va., was host to the Sixty-Ninth Southeastern District Conference of Brethren Churches, June 19-21, 1956. The Conference was called to order promptly at 3:00 P. M., on Thursday, by the Moderator. Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith. Inspiring singing was led at the opening, and at each session thereafter, by Mrs. Aubry C. Allen of the host Church. Opening remarks were made by the Moderator, and, after reading Acts 15, he stated the reasons for the first Church Conference held at Jerusalem, A. D. 52, and exhorted this Conference to proceed on the same basis. Greetings and a cordial welcome to the Conference were extended by the host Pastor, Rev. Milton Robinson.

The Conference Theme was "Open Doors," based on Revelation 3:8; "Behold, I have set before thee an open door."

The first inspirational message was brought by Dr. John F. Locke, using as his text Rev. 3:8. His message appeared in another issue of **The Brethren Evangelist.** The Moderator's address was brought on Tuesda evening by Rev. Klingensmith, using as his text: Re 3:8, in which he emphasized that "Christ is The Door He is the Door to everything good in relation to G and accomplishing His will. Christ is an "open doo which no man can close. Every Christian needs this doc

The first business session was held on Wednesd morning. There were 55 lay and 15 ministerial delegat making a total delegate body of 70. The first item business was the election of new Conference Office which resulted in the following: Moderator, Rev. Fre man Ankrum; Vice Moderator, Rev. Timothy D. Swart Secretary-Statistician, Rev. Bruce C. Shanholtz; Assi tant Secretary, Mrs. John Locke; Treasurer, Mr. Ma Logan; General Conference Executive Committee, Fre man Ankrum and Bruce Shanholtz. Many important iter of business were presented to the Conference which we

acted upon in a Christian manner. Greetings from the Oak Hill City Churches were brought by Rev. Mr. Robertson, of the Presbyterian Church.

Other inspiring messages were brought by, Rev. E. L. Miller; Rev. Freeman Ankrum; Rev. Guy F. Ludwig; Rev. W. S. Benshoff; Rev. Phil Lersch; Rev. Rob Bischof; and Dr. Joseph R. Shultz. Rev. L. O. McCartneysmith and Dr. John F. Locke addressed the ministers and laymen. Other visiting brethren included Rev. Ford, Pastor, and Rev. E. L. Clower, Elder of the Pleasant View Church of the Brethren.

All of the sessions were very well attended. We express our sincere thanks to the host Church, their Pastor, and all the members for the splendid way in which they entertained the Conference, for the fine meals served by the Woman's Organization, and for the Christian hospitality in the homes.

The Conference next year will be held at the Linwood Church, June 18-20. We eagerly look forward to that time. This writer being the Pastor of the Linwood Church and Secretary of the District has found it necessary to review the Conference Minute Books for certain items of business particularly in the settlement of a certain estate left to the Church. We were also interested in knowing how our Church has stood in relation to the District Program. We find that since 1919 (we do not have the District Minutes beyond that) the Linwood Church has entertained the District Conference regularly every seven or eight years, as follows: 1919, 1927, 1934, 1942, 1949, and 1957 to be.

The Sixty-Ninth Conference closed with the installation of the New Conferences Officers and prayer.

Bruce C. Shanholtz,
Secretary-Statistician.

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of October

Topic—"The Creation Story."

POWER OF THE CREATOR—Job 9:2-12. This is a very good passage for us to read. No matter how good we are nor how many fine acts of kindness we have done, we still can never be good enough to stand before God on our own merit. This is not cause for deep despair. Nor should it make us feel that there is no use to try. Rather it causes us to ponder the greatness of our Creator and goodness of our God. As Job said, supposing God notices us, and He does, we still could not answer one of a thousand questions He might ask us. This should not cause us to take the attitude of "What's the use of trying!" This is the very reason why we should thank Him for His love to us and more reason than ever to do good works in His Name.

PROTECTION OF THE CREATOR—Isaiah 51:12-16. What a wonderful prescription for the cure of a disease we humans are so foolish as to contract! All of us are just weak enough to allow ourselves to worry. And why should we when these verses give us every reason to have no fear? Did not God lay the foundation for the earth? Have we forgotten that He who made us put the heavens in their place? Having One so powerful for our Comforter, why should we fear mere man who has the strength of grass and shall surely die? There is no cause for worry when we learn that He has covered us with the shadow of His hand. Where else could we find such protection!

GOODNESS OF THE CREATOR—Nehemiah 9:16-25. When we read this account of how good God has been to the children of Israel in spite of their continued refusal to obey Him, we are brought face to face with the fact that we are today not much different. Theirs had been an experience of utter dependence upon God during their escape from Egypt and life in the wilderness. God's care was so complete and marvelous that they should never have forgotten. But they did! God has continually blessed us, led us out from wandering in the wilderness of sin, showered more and more of His blessings on us. Truly we must show our gratefulness by serving Him! Never in the history of the world have people witnessed so much and lived so comfortably. Indeed our God is good!

CARE OF THE CREATOR—Psalm 65:9-13. One needs only to read these verses to realize how carefully and completely God has planned for our every need. He has certainly provided for us far beyond any plan we could have. How very humbly it should make us feel when we think how He planned for the seasons of the year, the means of providing moisture for the crops, and the minerals in the earth to enrich the things we grow. These things did not just happen. And yet, because God does everything so orderly and quietly, we many times accept all these marvelous wonders of His handiwork with no feeling of awe or gratitude. We take it for granted that God owes us these provisions and blessings. We could never be more wrong! We owe God for everything!

WHAT GOD REQUIRES—Deuteronomy 10:12-14.

What does Jehovah God require of me?
In His Book I can tell
And I know it so well
His alone, He wants me to be.

But this is not all that He will require,
My heart He would control,
As well as my soul,
Serving Him always must be my desire.

He would have me to fear Him, Oh, yes,
To fear His displeasure,
Or the punishment He'd measure,
Should my life ever cause Him distress.

The Lord would have me to walk in His ways,
If I stay by His side,
From evil I'll hide,
Then I know I'll please Him all my days.

—Unknown.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE FINISHED PRODUCT

The liquor dealers advertise
In many magazines,
We see their "ads" on street cars, too,
And on the movie screens.

Pictures of happy, laughing girls
And wholesome, healthy lads;
But where's their finished product?
It's never in their ads!

THE LIQUOR INTERESTS are deceitful (Prov. 20:1). The patronage of their business leads the consumer to poverty (Prov. 23:20, 21). Liquor produces heartbreaking woe, sorrow, and contention; it produces babbling, wounds, and inflamed eyes (Prov. 23:29, 30). Wine is pleasant at first but will become a demon, creating an insatiable appetite (Prov. 23:31-32). Alcoholic drinks inflame lust, deaden the judgment, and enslave the will (Prov. 23:33-35). The drunkard is dangerous to himself and to others (Prov. 26:9).

Liquor corrupts politics, the courts, government, and the nation (Prov. 314, 5; Isaiah 5:22-24). Drinking men have no regard for the work of the Lord (Isaiah 5:11, 12). The curse of God is on the drunkard (Isaiah 28:1-3). Revenue to the state can never justify men in licensing the liquor traffic (Hab. 2:12). God's curse is on every individual, business, and government that in any way does business with booze (Hab. 2:15, 16). Moderate drinking easily leads to drunkenness, nakedness, and a curse on the drunkard's children (Gen. 9:20-25). Drunkenness leads also to adultery, incest, and illegitimate children (Gen. 19:30-36). The Scripture declares that drunkards cannot enter Heaven (1 Cor. 6:9, 10). Christians are not to associate with drunkards (1 Cor. 5:11). They are to seek to win drinking people to Christ for salvation and victory.

Many try to show that the Bible approves of drinking of wine by the miraculous act of Christ at Cana, and Paul's recommendation to Timothy that he use a little wine for his stomach's sake (1 Tim. 5:23). The word wine is not always fermented wine in Scripture. Grape juice fresh from the press is called wine in Proverbs 3:10. When Jesus turned water into wine in John 2 we can be sure it was fresh and not fermented. Fermentation is symbolical of evil, and therefore intoxicating wine is wholly unsuitable for the eucharist. The Bible speaks of "the fruit of the vine" (Matt. 25:29) or "the cup" (Matt. 26:27; Luke 22:29; 1 Cor. 10:16; 11:26) for the Holy Communion. God does not contradict Himself by condemning fermented wine in some verses and then recommending its use in other verses.

Look not upon the wine
That sparkles in its flow,
For death is slumbering there,
Beneath its ruddy glow.

No happiness it bringeth,
At last it only stingeth;
It biteth, and it wringeth
The heart with bitter woe.

Lift up the tempted soul
Now fallen in despair,
Direct his thoughts above,
To God, Who heareth prayer.

His arm in mighty power
Can bid the demon cower,
And in temptation's hour
Will an escape prepare.

—F. E. Belden.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for September 23, 1956

THE KINGDOM TRIUMPHANT

Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17

"The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the word;
From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life
He died.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war;
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest
And the great church victorious shall be the church at
rest."

THERE SHOULD BE no doubt in our minds as to the Triumph of the Church! The Church Visible is now being battered and torn by her adversaries. She is mocked at, and scoffed at. She is made the whipping-post of ungodly, licentious men. But remember Christ said "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18).

John the Beloved was given a revelation of the future of the Church. He was told to "write the things which thou hast seen (past), and the things which are (present), and the things which shall be hereafter (future)" (Rev. 1:19).

In the Book of Revelation, from chapters 4-22, the scene is in heaven. Our lesson for today is found in chapter 7, and, therefore, is a heavenly scene.

The Company—"A great multitude which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb." This should be a rebuke to those who think of heaven as a place for a special nation, or color, or creed. Requirements for entrance into God's presence are not based on external things. It is not important in what country

man is born, nor what color his skin may be. It is only ecessary that men possess pure hearts; that they "have ashed their robes, and made them white in the blood the Lamb."

Their Song—"Salvation to our God which sitteth upon e throne, and unto the Lamb." The Redeemed of the ord have something to sing about! Something in which rejoice! We have a great SALVATION, for we have great SAVIOUR! Remember when the seventy disciples eturned after being sent out by Jesus to preach the ospel? He said to them: "Notwithstanding in this reice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but ather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven" Luke 10:20).

Their Identification—"These are they which came out great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and ade them white in the blood of the Lamb." The cenries have contributed to this great throng. In this inumerable multitude there will be those who chose death ather than compromise their Godly convictions.

Their Service—"Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple." God is not calling men to their heavenly home to a place of **inactivity.** The Christian Life is a call to **service.** In heaven the Saints will still serve God. (We cannot help but think how ill-at-ease some Christians will be there—those who have had no time to **serve** God in this life!)

Their Reward—"He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more . . . For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

All that has been written in this lesson pertains to the **future.** Heaven awaits the Child of God who overcomes. Victory will come to the true Church. There is coming a day when Jesus Christ will put all enemies under His feet, and shall be crowned "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS" (Rev. 19:16).

"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

ENLARGE YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL that deserves to grow will grow. How does this come about? To enlarge you ust organize, train, and visit. This is absolutely essenal if a Sunday school is to grow.

Organize for Enlargement

Allocate church facilities to the classes and departents upon the basis of their present needs. This sounds bvious, but many young people's classes cannot expand ecause the adults will not give up their classroom—hich is really too big anyway.

Provide more space and organize new classes and new epartments. Rent a house near the church if necessary, ut get more space.

In Sunday school, you must divide if you would muliply. Especially in adult groups, classes normally reach aximum growth within a few months. This means that o enlarge, new classes must be set up often. It's a nown fact that new classes grow faster, win more peole, and provide more workers than do old classes.

Train for Enlargement

Any enlarging program must have a continual source f trained leadership. Enrollment increases in proportion o workers at the rate of 10 to 1. The more workers ou have, the larger enrollment you will have.

Don't just ask people if they will serve; enlist them with a challenge: Christ, the Gospel and the Church. Once they are enlisted, train them. Every church should have at least one leadership training course every year; this course should be taught by the pastor or some other qualified person.

Three of the main avenues of approach in training are (1) Bible survey, (2) how to teach, (3) Sunday school administration. Be sure to use the best helps available both in training and in serving.

Visit for Enlargement

First, set up a definite plan. Appoint a Director of Visitation who will be responsible for files, records, and assignments. The Director then will take the Sunday school membership list and arrange it in a card file according to geographical zones, classes, or departments. Prepare a prospect list and file it separate from the membership list. (Prospects include parents of all children in Sunday school, church members not enrolled, visitors to the services, parents of babies in the Cradle Roll, and so on.)

Second, set up a definite procedure. The Director of Visitation should make up visitation cards for absentees and prospects and assign these cards to the respective Sunday school classes. Enlist visitation teams, train them, and send them out weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly—but do it regularly.

Third, set up a definite follow-up. The Director of Visitation must keep an accurate record of all visitation activities. Follow up according to individual cases. Remember, it takes an average of seven calls just to interest a prospect in attending, so don't become discouraged if results are slow in coming.

"Going" is our commission. "Giving the increase" is God's responsibility. If we do our share, God will most certainly do His. The question is: "Have I done all my share?"

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

WHEN THE SUN COMES OVER...

ALL OF US REMEMBER a few years ago when Kate Smith was still singing "When the Moon comes Over the Mountain." If this noted vocalist were with me now, she could easily be inspired to utter "When the Sun comes over the Mission Home." It's now 5:30 A. M. on Tuesday morning, September 4 (day after Labor Day) as I sit at the typewriter in our Brethren Youth Office which faces the Brethren Missionary Home at the south end of Ashland College Campus.

The early hour for rising is caused by the fact that Editor W. S. B. must have this copy before I leave Ashland today to continue the pre-arranged and pre-announced itinerary of the Ambassador Quartet. Check your past Evangelists for the location nearest you. When you read this, it will be just about over and time to hang up our vocal cords for another summer. When all is complete, you'll hear from each member of the group concerning the 5½ week trip.

THE FISHBOWL has been smiled at by many Brethren, but more have "splashed silver" into it than looked. It's actually getting to be a chore to carry the heavy thing around—but who's complaining? Thanks to all of you who have given willingly, both in the local churches and at National Conference.

1956-57 Project $6,666.66
AMBASSADORS and SARASOTA

LITTLE THINGS MEAN MUCH

"A helping hand in time of need is worthy a volume of good wishes." When I accidentally ran across this quotation a few days ago, it set me to thinking once again how important it is that each one of us perform the tasks set before us, regardless of how small they may seem. Most of us think of service as engaging in some gigantic undertaking which will cause us to labor feverishly for the period of time it demands to complete it. Then we consider that our part of the job is completed and checked off the books until the next time.

Christ's work above all others is definitely not that way. He has called us to be his servants every day, working consistently and faithfully. Too often we forget that "it is a great thing to do a little thing well." But those who find real happiness are people who consider every way they can serve, regardless of how small, a special duty given to them. Those folks take that work and think of it as their special mission. They have something that indifferent people, even Christians, may be lacking.

EXAMPLE: National Conference is carried-on by a great many people doing multiple tasks. Today I take one of those unnoticed groups to point out some of the thoughts just mentioned above. Every morning from 8:00 until 12:00 a group of women from the Park Street Brethren Church took turn about conducting a nursery for the children of conference delegates, so that they could enjoy the morning sessions without interruption. Brethren Youth had a hand in arrranging for this service and so we give a hearty "Hats Off" to Miss Hazel Ann Linn, Miss Sharon Berkshire, Mrs. Betty Isenhart, Mrs. Regina Rowsey, Mrs. Vendur and Mrs. Zimmerman. Several of the parents who took advantage of this service mentioned how much it was appreciated and we pass their thanks on to you.

Before I leave this subject of taking small tasks seriously, I must mention your own local Brethren Youth work. Brethren Youth activity is carried on best by several people in your church who are willing to help in many seemingly "small ways." Someone is needed to be advisor, president, subscription chairman, program chairman, project chairman, or youth director—to mention a few. Have you ever asked yourself the question, "Which part should I be playing in Brethren Youth work this year?" More often than not you'll find work to do for the Lord if you look for it than if you wait for someone else to approach you and ask for your cooperation. I challenge each one of you to do something in and for Brethren Youth in the next month—as a starter.

COMING EVENTS

HAGERSTOWN BRETHREN CHURCH — November 10: There will be a Brethren Youth Workshop for young people, pastors and adult advisors at the Hagerstown Church on the above day in the afternoon and early evening. Watch for more details and announcements. Brethren in the **Northern** Southeastern District should plan now to attend.

MT. OLIVE BRETHREN CHURCH—November 3: There will be a Brethren Youth Workshop for young people, pastors and adult advisors at the Mt. Olive Church on the above day in the afternoon and early evening. Watch for more details and announcements. Brethren in the **Southern** Southeastern District should plan now to attend.

THE TWO above-mentioned workshops are something new in Brethren Youth work. The purpose is to assemble and talk about the future of the Brethren Church, by speaking of the future of Brethren Youth itself and making plans for a more effective organization in the districts where the workshops are held. More will be coming. Watch for the notice that affects you.

B. Y. B. C.

Expect an all-out drive for membership in the Brethren Youth Booster Club in the near future.

ODDS 'N ENDS AGAIN

The next issue of the Brethren Youth Magazine will be off the press the last of September. If your home is not receiving this jewel, send in your subscription right now. Mail to Brethren Youth, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio. How else can you know of the all-out activities of B. Y.?

Brethren Youth are becoming more united as the summer flies. Just recently Larry Weidenhamer and Marilyn Miller were united in wedlock. Best wishes, kids.

Be a Booster, not a Rooster.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

TIME AND SERVICE

" . . . knowing the time, that now it is high time awake out of sleep" Rom. 13:11.

HOW OFTEN when turning on our radio or TV sets we hear the popular song. "It's Later Than You hink." Time has a way of marching on. A moment gone an never be recalled. Neither do we know what the ature of the next moment will be. No one has any asurance that tomorrow will be their's, yet how many are iving any thought to it? Can we say, "My time is my wn and it is my business how I use it?" How many mes have young people gone out on our highways for n evening of fun and frivolity, and never seen the light f a new day. Were they ready to enter into eternity? What time is it? This we hear many times each day ut as this most common question is asked do we really ink of it in a material or physical sense? But what of e spiritual time? Is it not time that we stop and think? ow much of life do I have left? Have I done my best ith every moment entrusted to me?

So many people cannot find time to do things in the church. Yet from observation I note these same people find time to do the things they want for themselves. Have we time to help a sick neighbor? To give a cup of cold water in the name of Christ? Are we asleep to the needs of our church, our missionaries and their work in the far-off places? Can we redeem the time before it is too late?

What is service? Do we just do only what is required of us when doing a task, or do we go a little farther than required? How often do we think to carry some flowers from our gardens to the sick lady down the block a piece? Perhaps a neighbor, although she may be of another faith, needs a little advise and comfort. Or is it a little child who is having problems he cannot solve and comes to us for direction and comfort? Can my neighbors look at me and say I know she is a Christian because of her deeds? Even though the neighbor next to you may not be as interested in her children as we think she should be, can we be of service in a way not to offend her, and still not seem meddlesome? In Gal. 5:13 we read, "by love serve one another."

Has love ceased to be our measure of service? God loved mankind so much He gave His only begotten Son to die for the sin of the world. Can we give any less than ourselves to full surrendered service to the One who paid by His own death for our sins? How much have we surrendered? Have I done my best for Jesus who has done so much for me?

Mrs. Elmer Keck,
Jones Mills, Pa.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

WHAT MY ABSENCE DID!

1. It made some question the reality of religion.
2. It made some think I was a pretender.
3. It made many think that I regarded my spiritual welfare and that of others as a matter of small concern.
4. It weakened the effect of the church service.
5. It made it harder for the preacher to preach.
6. It discouraged the brethren and therefore robbed them of a blessing.
7. It caused others to stay away from church.
8. It made it harder for me to meet the temptations of the devil.
9. It gave the devil more power over lost souls.
10. It encouraged the habit of non-church going.

WHAT MY PRESENCE DID!

1. It caused people to have confidence in me.
2. It made people know that I regarded my spiritual welfare and that of others as a matter of great importance.
3. It had a good effect on the services.
4. It made my friends feel more welcome.
5. It encouraged the brethren and helped the preacher in his work.
6. It caused others to come to Christ and say, "I believe."
7. It made my life stronger for another week.
8. It removed stumbling blocks from the sinner's path.
9. It pleased God and I was happy.
10. It caused others to say: "He Practiced What He Preached."

—New Lebanon News.

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

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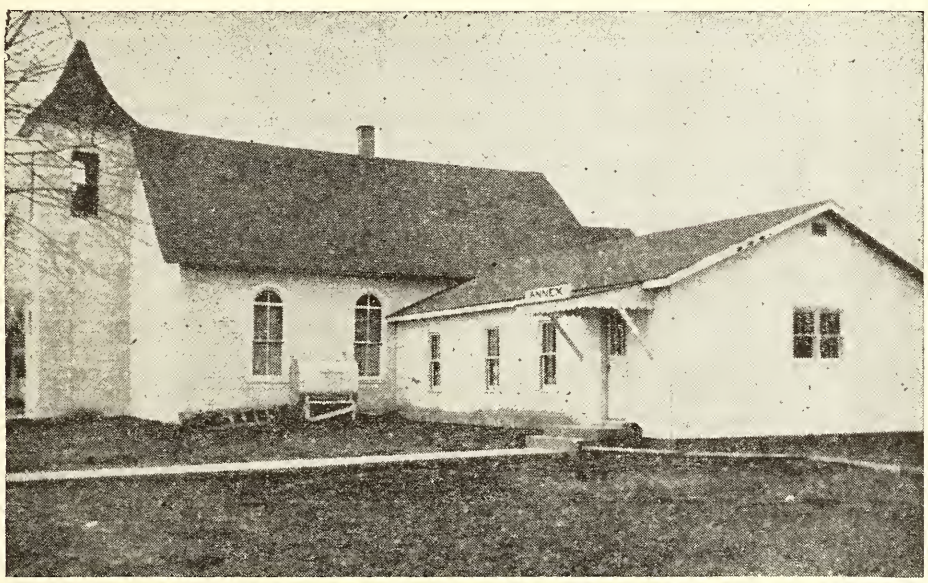
October 11-14

Rev. Claude Stogsdill, Moderator



UDELL, IOWA, BRETHREN CHURCH

Mid-West District Conference Program in this Issue

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Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

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Items of General Interest

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. A Singspiration following the evening service, was held in the St. James church on September 2nd.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. We note that Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz began his third year of work with the Linwood Brethren on September 2nd.

The Eppley Sisters Gospel Quartet of York, Penna., conducted the morning worship service on September 9th. A basket dinner at the church followed the service.

Brother Shanholtz conducted morning devotions over WTTR, Westminster, on September 7th.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Guest speaker on September 16th was Rev. John Turnbull; he spoke at the morning service and presented colored motion pictures of the Holy Land at the evening service.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. The W. M. S. held their Public Service on September 16th, with Mrs. Frank Morrison, Ohio District W. M. S. President, of Dayton, Ohio, as guest speaker.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Guest speakers recently were: Rev. "Chuck" Kraft, on September 2nd; and Rev. Jesse Hoover, on September 9th.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO. GRETNA BRETHREN. A perfect weather day, and a full house, were two factors which made for a successful afternoon and evening Miami Valley Brethren Youth Rally in the Gretna Church on September 9th. Attendance was around 130 from all but two of the churches of MVBY. The Gretna Young people presented a fine program at the afternoon hour, a bountiful supper was served by the Gretna ladies; at the evening services, Rev. Park, Logan County Probation Officer presented a challenging message to the young people.

The young people determined to raise $666.66 this year as their portion of the National Brethren Youth Project of $6,666.66 for the Ambassador's Trip to Europe and for the Sarasota Church. The next MVBY Rally will be held in the Pleasant Hill church on December 9th. (WSB).

CARLETON, NEBRASKA. Congratulations are in order for Brother and Sister Claude Stogsdill, on the arrival of Donald Ray Stogsdill the morning of September 7th.

We note that Brother Stogsdill will be closing his pa torate with the Carleton Brethren early in October, take up the pastorate of the Mathias, W. Va. church, b ginning Ocober 7th.

This 'n' That

By the Editor

LAST CALL

This is the last reminder to General Conference Au iliary Secretaries relative to minutes which are to appe in the Brethren Annual. While our mailing date is st some weeks away, yet now is the time when the bu of the Annual is in preparation. Therefore, if your Co ference sessions minutes usually appear in the Annu we would appreciate a prompt reply to this announ ment by the mailing of your minutes to the Editor of Pu lications. If your minutes do not arrive soon, we sh have to close the forms of the Annual without them.

We would also like to, again, remind pastors who a contemplating changes, to so inform the Editor, so th your correct address can appear in the proper place.

COMING EVENTS

WARSAW, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**October 8-** —Rev. Woodrow B. Brant, Evangelist; Rev. Robert H singer, Pastor.

NEWARK, OHIO. Rally Day—**September 30th**—W. -Crick, Pastor.

BURLINGTON, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**Beg ning September 23rd**—Rev. Arthur H. Tinkel, Evangeli Joe Thomas, formerly with Cadle Tabernacle Radio Qu tet, Song Leader; Rev. Floyd Sibert, Pastor.

MEXICO, INDIANA. Rally Day and Homecoming **September 30th**—All day meeting with basket dinner noon. Rev. Henry Bates, of North Manchester, afterno speaker. Rev. Wayne Swihart, Pastor.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Special Speaker—**Septe ber 23rd, 7:30 P. M.**—The Honorable Theodore R. M Keldin, Governor of the State of Maryland; Rev. Fr man Ankrum, Pastor.

(Continued on Page 6)

The Editor's Pulpit

The National Goals Program

WE ARE REPRODUCING for you this week the National Goals Program of The Brethren Church (pages 8 and 9).

It is a very challenging program for the Brethren. Its only weakness will be the tendency for he Brethren to "let it slide" until "the last minte," insead of working on it "right away." This, he Goals Committee can do nothing about. A uccessful meeting of the Goals is the responsiility of the local churches, leaders, officers and astors.

The National Goals Committee has put some ery good thinking and planning into these Goals s they now appear. A Goals Program such as his, naturally, is an evolving thing. This year's rogram is built on last year's and on all which as gone before.

A number of changes have been made by the ommittee—the most notable is the emphasis laced upon our Three-Fold Communion Service. Inder Section I, "Denominational Goals," Item reads, **"Semi-Annual Communion Services with 0% increase in attendance over previous serice."** This is a new goal this year. We are very appy for the emphasis thereby given to the ommunion Service. Points also have been reevalated. The "Communion Goal" has been classiied with the highest rating Goals such as, The 0% increase in local Church membership, All iembers Active Members, and Tithing—being iven 5 points on the scale.

A comparative analysis of the 1954-55 and the 955-56 reports of the Goals Committee is worhy of our time and interest. (These reports apeared in the August 27, 1955 and August 25, 956 **Evangelists**).

While the number of reports received at Genral Conference time both years was the same, 71, yet the highest Church this year gained 93 points as against their 86 last year (The Vinco Brethren Church). The total points achieved by the twelve high churches in 1954-55 was 953; this year, 1008, or a gain of 55 points.

Theoretically, a Church could work itself up to the place where a near-100% score would, for that Church, lose its challenge. There are two possibilities whereby this can be prevented. One is the knowledge that to achieve a high score requires work, and that to stay among the highest requires constant vigilance and effort. The other possibility is for the National Goals Committee to constantly add to the Goals Program new challenges. This they have done this year, and it represents a further incentive to the leading churches, who by their previous records, have proven that they want to be challenged.

Of course, we realize that the value of the Goals Program is not in its achievement of points. No Church should embrace this program with that thought, alone, in mind! Points represent the tabulator reading of the local church's efforts in the work of the Lord—the ministry of the Gospel. We are in business to witness of our Lord to the souls of men. These Goals are the "mile posts" set up by our Committee as a standard wherby we can measure our efforts and our progress (or our lack of it!)

With the knowledge of the fact that the Goals' year ends March 31, 1957 instead of July 31st, let us put our talents and lives to work for Christ this year—working from "dawn to setting sun" —and longer, as necessary, to achieve, not only an excellent record on the Goals Program, but an increasingly effective, profitable and fruitful ministry of Christian service and witnessing in our communities. For what other reason are you in existance as a Church? W S. B.

Nicodemus: the hesitant follower of Jesus in the night

Rev. J. G. Dodds

ONE OF THE MANY witnesses and followers of Jesus, who testify to the spiritual glory which He inspired, is Nicodemus. Only Nicodemus stepped forward to accept the Son of God hesitantly after daylight hours, presumably not to be conspicuous, for as a member of the ruling body of Israel, the Sanhedrin, he did not wish to arouse their hostility openly.

The Jewish church and state was ruled by this group of seventy men, all under the Roman overlord. It took courage to step forth from their midst and testify that "Jesus was a teacher come from God, for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." Nicodemus understood a great deal, for he was a profound scholar. He knew that Jesus was more than a teacher, and began to see that He represented the fulfillment of the promise of the Messiah, sent to the people of the whole world. But naturally the Sanhedrin were not ready to accept Him as Messiah and Saviour, being bound by the old traditions. Probably Nicodemus came by nigl to Him so as not to be interrupted in his conve sation with Christ concerning His redeemir work as high priest, operating on our hear through His spirit. Otherwise man's salvation impossible, and man's end can be reached in ı other way. "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, E cept a man be born from above, he cannot s the kingdom of God." "Ye must be born fro above."

Nicodemus was himself a teacher in Israel, wl understood much, yet who stood at the feet Jesus as a greater Rabbi than Israel had ev produced. He came to Jesus to learn the new di pensation, though not all of it came to enlight his mind until later. He was at first hesitant, f it takes time to be convinced, and he was n suddenly converted by a great light, as was Pa the great Apostle and teacher of Christian fait

n this case the process was gradual, for it takes a good deal of meditation, and hesitant approach, before one can overcome his lifetime habits of thought and to be really initiated.

Now, Nicodemus was willing to learn, for he respected the Master as one who came from God, for the miracles which He performed were many and astounding, and could not have been done "except God be with Him." With this attitude in mind, Nicodemus is receptive to the new teachings, which represent the essence of Christianity, but of course there is much need of explanation. When Jesus tells this learned man, "Except one be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God," Nicodemus naturally is perplexed and asks how a man can be reborn unless he is newly delivered as an infant from his mother. It doesn't sound rational to him, for he is accustomed to well reasoned logical terms. Then Jesus makes the point clearer to the doubter: "Except one be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." And He goes on eloquently to explain this glorious conception.

The greatness and radical nature of this change cannot be too forcefully emphasized. The Bible terms which are used to describe it are none too strong. It is as John declares, a new birth; a birth from above, without which a man cannot enter the kingdom of God. It is a new creation: "If any man is in Christ, he is a new creature, the old things are passed away; behold they are become new." It is a resurrection from the dead; the believer has passed out of death into life. This language is figurative, but it has a definite and tangible meaning when one reflects on it. The change of heart involves a transformation in the spiritual sphere so great that it can be adequately illustrated only by the greatest of all transformations in the natural sphere—creation, birth and death.

The need of God's grace is absolute, and no other release is possible. This grace has come to us and all men objectively through the atoning work of Christ the King operating upon our hearts through the inward work of the Holy Spirit. Otherwise salvation is impossible, and man's chief end can be reached in no other way. "Ye must be born from above."

The work of the Spirit in regeneration has a mysterious element in it. It takes place in part at least out of the sphere of our consciousness. The access of God and Christ to our souls through the Spirit is a fact to which consciousness testifies. Every man hears the Divine voice and feels the striving of God within, urging him to follow the better way; and every Christian has the witness of the Spirit and a personal fellowship with the Father through Christ. But this is the region of the supernatural. There is in it a limitless factor which evades our attempt to analyze and understand it. We know the work of the Spirit in regeneration from its results: "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but knoweth not whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit." We know that we have been born because we have entered the new life. We know that of ourselves we could not have produced this result. We cannot doubt that the true cause is that which revelation describes, and the workings of which we know in our experience both before and after the change of heart: It is that Spirit of God which is also the Spirit of Christ.

Nicodemus failed to understand that the life of the Spirit far transcends the operations of the intellect and reasoning power. The philosopher may try to describe and understand in terms of logic, but the approach to religion is made through faith, not through reason. There is nothing in the new state of spiritual rebirth which contradicts the reason. The inner transformation results only when there is a response through faith to the advances of God through Christ. When we do see the kingdom of God, we begin to understand what before this was confusing and seen through a glass only obscurely or darkly. The concept of new birth was never taught in the schools of old Palestine. Nicodemus had much more to learn before he became a true follower of the Son of God, when he became born into the spiritual realm. He needed the further education—the revitalizing and energizing of his whole inner life. This transformation of the spirit is new life indeed, and it presupposes birth and the process of birth.

Hastings, in his "Great Texts of the Bible," remarks that the situation which confronted Nicodemus happens whenever the call to higher truth comes face to face with more traditional teaching or acceptance of what one's ancestors believe. Nicodemus is a conventional man, and just like his fellow citizens, is trying to reduce the mysterious to the commonplace. Current traditions, rules and common interpretations prevent him from looking beyond them. At first he can't see how a man can be born again, but the

answer of Christ is that the Spirit must touch his spirit and he must leave behind him the old, formal traditions and rule of habit. Primarily religion is a matter of faith, which Nicodemus needed to blow away the clouds of prejudice.

At the time, the chief priests and Pharisees were unwilling to give Jesus a hearing instead of searching for new light. The greatest book in the world is often ignored by intellectuals who are not guided by its truths, and who are unwilling to accept the gift of the Spirit. One must be open to its influence, and become admitted to the Kingdom of Heaven in faith, when God is loved and trusted and communed with. Science is all well and good in its place, as seeking the mastery of the material world, and rendering its valuable service to mankind. But spiritual realities are to be apprehended only by faith. There is a point beyond which it is not possible to know and understand the fundamentals of science. But soon a point is reached when to us a revelation comes of the things which "eye hath not seen nor ear heard, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." Only God, by the power of His Spirit, can create this rebirth. The workings of His living Spirit cannot be understood, but we can feel and observe it in the lives of regenerated men. Hence the necessity of preaching the full doctrine of rebirth through faith in Christ.

—Akron, Ohio.

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 2)

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Rally Day, morning of September 30th; Homecoming, evening of September 30th. Rev. N. V. Leatherman, Pastor.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO. GRETNA BRETHREN. Rally Day—September 30th.—Rev. George W. Solomon, Pastor.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

S—some days I give myself to pleasure and work but the first day of the week I purpose to worship God in His sanctuary

U—unless I find myself sick or unavoidably hindered by circumstances over which have no control, and even then

N—not any frivolous excuse will be given or entertained in my heart as an invention for laziness or indifference. No! I am

D—determined to go to the house of God on His Holy Day to hear and study His Word.

A—always busy for God is my motto when Sunday rolls around to bless me with its hallowed rest and quiet.

Y—yesterdays with their happiness and pleasures are all they could have been expected but give me the Lord's Day with its sacred memories.

S—study may be a weariness of the flesh, but the careful study of God's Word brings us in touch with the

C—choice treasures of God, and awakens in us the desire to do right and to love and serve

H—Him supremely. After all, what is life worth living for if not in living the Christian life

O—only I must not neglect to win my friends and neighbors to Christ also, so there is only

O—one right thing to do and that is to invite them all to come to church and Sunday school with me and not permit them to

L—lose their souls through my neglect and indifference. No, I will be up and doing while it is day because the night cometh when no man can work.

—The United Brethren.

Note — Boy's Brotherhood

Your book **"Jungles Ahead!"** is now in stock, so get your order in early. The price: $1.25.

Order from

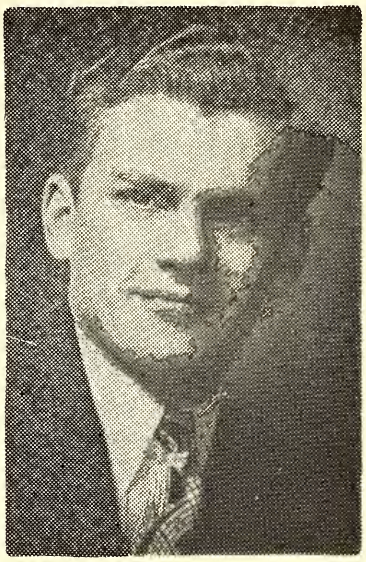
The Brethren Publishing Company
524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

SSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
4 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone: 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

NEW PASTOR FOR WASHINGTON CHURCH



JOSEPH R. SHULTZ, who for the past several years has served as field secretary for the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church, has accepted the pastorate of the Brethren Church in Washington, D. C.

Dr. Shultz and Mrs. Shultz (the former Doris Hart from Washington) have taken up their residence in the capital city immediately and Dr. Shultz delivered his first sermon as pastor on September 9.

The Missionary Board is grateful that these young people will take over the work at Washington, where a building program will soon be under way.

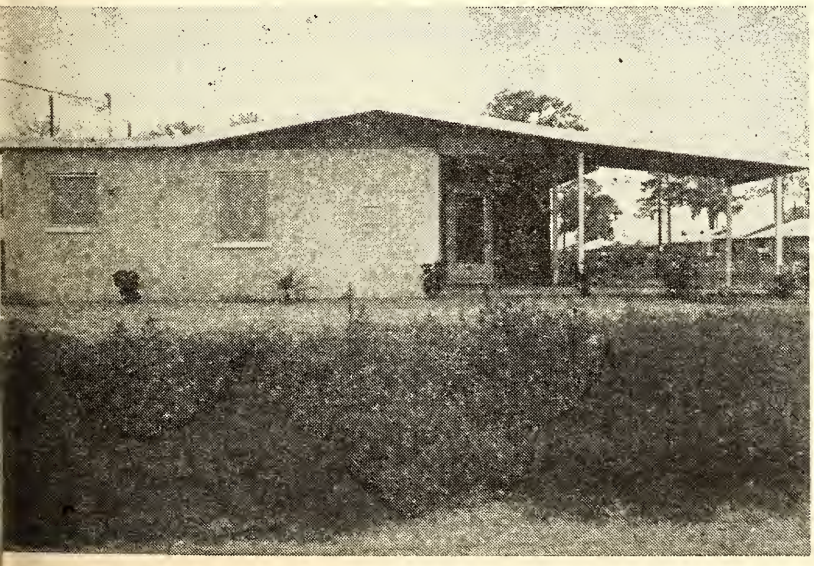
Reverend J. R. Klingensmith, the former pastor, who served splendidly for the past four years, is now teaching in the Seminary at Ashland.

SARASOTA, Here They Come—

.e Lichtenbergers, that is. During this week, Reverend yle Lichtenberger, accompanied by his wife, Lavonne, ıd their children, Linda, Roseann, Mark and Philip, arved in Sarasota to become permanent residents of that ıst-growing community (Reverend Vanator maintains it the fastest growing in the U. S.)

We predict a fine relationship between the Lichtenergers and this zealous new church. The accompanying picture shows the lovely parsonage the Sarasota Brethren have provided for the pastor family. It is of typical Florida architecture—containing three bedrooms, living room, utility room, kitchen and Florida room or study. The kitchen is equipped with electric refrigerator, stove and high oven unit. Such fine concern for the welfare of pastor and family is indeed commendable!

The new pastor preached his first sermon to these people on September 16.



The new parsonage recently purchased by the Sarasota Brethren—the home of Pastor Lyle Lichtenberger and family.

National Goals Program of The Brethren Church

Dear Friends:

It is with pleasure that we give this National goals Form to you, at the beginning of our new Conferenc Year. The National Goals Committee wishes to express their appreciation for the fine response given last year' Program, and to urge your continued support and cooperation in the Goals Program.

Revision of 1956

Report of The .....Brethren Church
for the Year ending March 31, 1957.

		Value	Score
	I. Denominational Membership Goals		
1.	A Net increase of at least 10% in Membership in every Local Church	5	_____
2.	Every Member an Active Member	5	_____
3.	Every Member paying a Tithe of his Income into and through the Church.....	5	_____
4.	Full Quota of Delegates in attendance at District and General Conferences	3	_____
5.	Semi-Annual Communion Services with 10% Increase in attendance over previous service	5	_____
	II. Missionary Goals		
1.	Definite Missionary Instruction in every Church	4	_____
2.	A Missionary Prayer Group in every Church	3	_____
3.	Definite support of New Churches, Projects, or Personnel; in addition to regular Missionary Offerings	3	_____
4.	Annual Missionary Offerings in every Church whose average per member shall exceed their previous annual offerings by at least $1.00, with every Church contributing to Brethren Missionary Enterprises an amount which shall not be less than $3.00 per member per year	3	_____
	III. Christian Education Goals		
1.	All Brethren Sunday Schools represented in District Camps	2	_____
2.	Each Sunday School striving to follow, "Standard of Excellence" as published and promoted by our National S. S. Board	3	_____
3.	A Leadership Training Class in every Church	3	_____
4.	At least one Daily Vacation Bible School provided by every church or participation in a Community V. B. S.	2	_____
5.	Annual White Gift Offering to increase over previous year	2	_____
	IV. Publication Goals		
1.	**The Brethren Evangelist** in every Brethren Home	4	_____
2.	All available Brethren Sunday School Literature used in every Brethren Sunday School	4	_____
3.	Promotion of a Brethren Emphasis Program in every Brethren Church	3	_____
4.	An annual Publication Day Offering with every Church giving more per member..	2	_____

V. Ashland College and Seminary Goals

1. A Member of Local Church enrolled in Ashland College or Seminary	3	_____
2. One New recruit or more for the Brethren Ministry each year from each Local Church, enrolled in Ashland College under the auspices of The Ashland Theological Seminary	3	_____
3. Support of the Expansion Program for Ashland College and Seminary	3	_____
4. Annual Educational Day Offering to increase per member	3	_____

VI. Benevolent Board Goals

1. Active participation in Ministers Annuity Plan, and, or Social Security	3	_____
2. An annual Benevolent Day Offering for Superannuated Ministers, and the Brethren's Home at Flora, Indiana, to increase over previous year	3	_____
3. Participation in the "Food For The Faithful" project, promoted by Brethren Youth	2	_____

VII. Active Auxiliary Organizations in Every Church

1. Woman's Missionary Society	3	_____
2. Sisterhood of Mary & Martha	2	_____
3. Laymens Organization	2	_____
4. Boys' Brotherhood	2	_____
5. B. Y. C., or C. E. (Sunday Evening Youth)	3	_____
6. Visitation Evangelism Class in each Church	2	_____
7. Active Week Night Prayer Meeting	3	_____
8. Signal Lights and/or Junior Church	2	_____
		_____
Total score for this local Church	100	Your Score

The above National Goals report in its revision was authorized in the regular Business Session of the Conference, and supersedes the former Goals Program points. Each church should take special recognition of this and work toward the fulfilling of their part of the program. Thus the National Program may be completed more easily.

All Goals must be evaluated percentagewise, where your Church does not meet its full requirements. Your Goals Committee will be happy to help explain or interpret any questions you may have. Please keep and use this form as a guide throughout the year. Yours for a Better Goals Program,

The National Goals Committee

R. K. Higgins, Chairman
Robert Keplinger, Stat.
Henry Bates
L. O. McCartneysmith
E. J. Black

The Brethren Evangelist for August 25th, reported the names and scores of the twelve highest churches in the Brotherhood on the Goals Achievement Report. We would encourage all of our churches to participate in the 1956-57 Goals Program so that there might be a greater total of churches reported and points attained at next Conference time. W. S. B.

Tentative Program
MID-WEST DISTRICT CONFERENCE OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
Cheyenne Brethren Church, Cheyenne, Wyoming
October 11-14, 1956

CONFERENCE THEME: "Power for Service"

Thursday evening, October 11

7:30 Song Service
7:45 Devotions .....Cheyenne Delegate
8:00 Address of Welcome .....Rev. Frank Garber
Roll Call of the Churches and response by a Delegate from each Church.
Appointment of Committees
Sermon ..... Rev. J. Milton Bowman
"Powerless Churches Die Spiritually"

Friday morning, October 12

9:15 Song Service
9:25 Devotions .....Carleton Delegate
9:35 Business Session:
Report of Credential Committee
Election of Officers
Report of Committee on Incorporation
Report of Ministerial Examining Board
Other Business
Announcements
Special Music .....Cheyenne
11:30 Moderator's Address .....Rev. C. R. Stogsdill

Friday afternoon

1:30 Song Service
1:45 Devotions .....Fort Scott Delegate
1:55 Ashland College and Seminary
Ashland College Representative
2:25 Special Music .....Mulvane
2:30 Sermon .....Rev. Frank W. Garber
"The Source of Power"
3:30 Group Sessions:
W. M. S., Laymen, Ministers, Youth

Friday evening

7:30 Song Service
7:45 Devotions .....McLouth Delegate
7:55 Special Music .....Falls City
8:00 Sermon .....Rev. Myron Dodds
"Power for Service in O. T. Saints"

Saturday Morning, October 13

9:15 Song Service
9:25 Devotions .....Falls City Delegate

CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Moderator .....Rev. Claude R. Stogsdil
Vice-Moderator .....Rev. J. Milton Bowma
Secretary .....Mrs. Lucille Davi
Treasurer .....Mrs. Ernest McKin
Statistician .....Mrs. Dwight Bishar
Conference Song Director .....(to be selected
Conference Pianist .....Mrs. Lucille Davi

Guest Speakers: Representative of Ashland Colleg
Representative of Mission Board
Representative of Brethren Youtl
Representative of Publication Boar

9:35 Business Session:
Woman's Missionary Report
Mrs. Jennie Lietsch, District Presiden
Laymen .....Mr. Lester Pec
Camp Wyandotte .....Mrs. Raymond Lande
Statistician .....Mr. Dwight Bishar
District Evangelist .....Rev. Frank Garbe
College Trustee ..... John Licht
Unfinished Business
New Business
11:25 Song Service
11:30 Sermon .....Rev. John Bowe
"Power for Service in N. T. Saints"

Saturday afternoon

1:30 Song Service
1:45 Devotions .....Morrill Delegat
1:50 Special Music .....Carleto
2:00 Special Reports:
Brethren Youth
Sunday School Board
Publishing Company
Missionary Board
Benevolent Board
Treasurer's Report
Secretary's Report
Resolution's Committee Report
3:30 Open discussion on: "Problems of the District"

Saturday evening

7:30 Song Service
7:45 Devotions .....Mulvane Delega
7:55 Special Music .....Morr

8:00 Sermon .....Rev. Stedman Aldis
"Power in Personal Life Today"

Sunday morning, October 14

0:30 Sunday School .....Cheyenne S. S. Supt.
1:00 Devotions .....Moderator
Sermon .....Rev. Phil Lersch
Installation of Officers

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Theme: "Building For Christ"

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35.

Friday afternoon

Prelude .....Cheyenne W. M. S.
Call to Worship ..... Matthew 9:37, 38
Invocation
Song: "Jesus Calls Us"
Devotions .....Mulvane Delegate
Special Music .....Morrill W. M. S.
Vice-President's National Conference Report:
Written by Mrs. J. F. Burton
Panel Discussion: "Brethren Women at Work"
Business:
Secretary-Treasurer's Report
President's Report
Goals Chairman Report and Recommendations:
Mrs. Mary Rieger
Apointments and Announcements
Election of Officers
Prayer .....Mrs. Frank Garber

Saturday afternoon

Prelude .....Mulvane W. M. S.
Call to Worship .....Psalm 123:1-2
Invocation
Song: "Jesus, I Come"
Devotions .....Carleton Delegate
Special Music .....Fort Scott W. M. S.
Inspirational Message .....Guest Speaker
Business:
Adoption of Goals and Project
Memorial Service .....Falls City W. M. S.
Installation of Officers .....Mrs. J. Milton Bowman
Final Secretary's Report
Closing Song: "Where He Leads Me"
W. M. S. Benediction.

W. M. S. DISTRICT OFFICERS

President .....Mrs. Lauren Lietsch, Carleton, Nebr.
Vice-President .....Mrs. John Burton
Secretary-Treasurer..Mrs. Lee Howard, Mulvane, Kans.
S. M. M. Patroness..Mrs. Claude Stogsdill, Carleton, Nebr.

SEVEN REASONS WHY I SHOULD STAY FOR THE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

1. It is the principle service of the Church.

2. This is my church and I should encourage it in every way possible.

3. Through this service the Lord speaks to His people, and since I am one of them, I should stay to hear His message.

4. My own soul needs what the Lord has provided for me here today.

5. I need to help others appreciate what the Lord has provided for them, too.

6. If I leave after Sunday School I am casting my own personal testimony against the Lord's work here.

7. Every one who sees me leave may say, "There goes a Christian who doesn't care whether the Lord's work is continued, and has never learned his place in truly supporting that work."

THINK! brother, sister, THINK!

—Wayne Heights Brethren Bulletin.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

WATCH AND PRAY

Christian, seek not yet repose;
Cast thy dreams of ease away,
Thou art in the midst of foes;
"Watch and pray."

Principalities and powers,
Mustering their unseen array,
Wait for thine unguarded hours;
"Watch and pray."

Gird thy heavenly armour on,
Wear it ever night and day;
Ambused lies the evil one:
"Watch and pray."

Hear above all thy Lord,
Him thou lovest to obey,
Hide within thy heart His Word,
"Watch and pray."

Watch as if on that alone,
Hung the issue of the day;
Pray that help may be sent down;
"Watch and pray."

—Selected.

IN THE MODEL daily prayer we ask for guidance against temptation and for deliverance from evil (Matt. 6:13a). Not to "watch and pray" is to fail (Matt. 26:41). There can be no peace nor victory without taking everything to God in prayer (Phil. 4:6, 7). Not to pray is to walk in our own wilful way, void of the Holy Spirit of God (Gal. 5:16; Eph. 5:18; 4:30; I Thess. 5:19). Prayer is a mighty weapon, and to watch is to be well armoured (Eph. 6:10-17).

"O fight the good fight like a soldier;
Put on the whole armor of God,
The belt and the breast plate and helmet,
The shoes and the shield and the sword;
Then pray as you fight 'neath His banner,
And stand 'gainst the wiles of the foe,
The Saviour the victory will give you,
And be with you where'er you go."

To "watch and pray" entails a complete and continuous surrender to "the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:7-14). It means to count one's self dead to sin, and yielded and alive to God (Rom. 6:11-14). The Devil tempts us through the world, flesh and pride (1 John 2:15). But our desire should be unto the resurrection of the righteous for the redemption of our bodily and fleshly nature (Rom. 8:19-23). We shall never be satisfied until we awake in the likeness of God's Son (Psalm 17:15; Rom. 8:29). Meanwhile, it may take infirmities to help hold our fleshly pride into subjection that th power of Christ may have sway (2 Cor. 12:7-10).

To "watch and pray" means to have daily light fo daily living (1 John 1:3-7). Daily reliance upon the Wor of God gives light and strength for victory (Psalm 119 9, 11). We are fortified by the Word and sanctified b its Truth (John 17:17). We are rooted and grounde in the Word of God's grace (Acts 20:32; Col. 2:6, 7 To live a consistent life of faith we must be consister in Bible feeding (Eph. 5:25, 26). It will keep us fro the first steps to evil (1 Thess. 5:22; Gal. 5:26). It wi send us out to win souls, which will help to keep u straight (Psalm 126:6). Ponder on the wisdom of sou winning (Prov. 11:30). Not to win souls is to turn one' self over to temptation (John 15:2). God protects Hi fruit-bearing trees (Deut. 20:20).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for September 30, 1956

THE GREAT INVITATION

Lesson: Revelation 22:1-5, 8-9, 16-21

GOD DOES NOT make known to His People all th good things which He hath prepared for then There will be surprises in Heaven! "Eye hath not see nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart man, the things which God hath prepared for them th love Him" (I Cor. 2:9).

Pertaining to the future, however, much has been r vealed in the book of the Revelation. John was give a glimpse into the "things which must shortly come pass" (Rev. 1:1). He was permitted to know in pa what the Heavenly Kingdom would be like. He was to who would be included, as well as who would be exclude And he heard "The Great Invitation" extended to all me

It is necessary to include the entire book of the Re elation if a complete picture of Heaven is desired. It possible, however, to discover much about the New Jer salem from chapters 21 and 22. Our lesson is limited chapter 22.

Notice what is said about Heaven in Revelation 22:1-

1. All activities will be centered around "the thro of God" and "the Lamb"—(vs. 1).

2. "The tree of life" will be there. This is the tr which was once situated in the Garden of Eden. Aft the fall of Adam and Eve, the cherubim with flamin sword guarded the tree of life lest they would eat ther of and live—(vs. 2).

3. Heaven will be free from the curse of sin which h blighted the earth and all that is therein—(vs. 3).

4. The People of God will serve Him forever—(vs. 3

5. The Lamb of God will be there, for we shall see Hi —(vs. 4).

6. The Redeemed of the Lord will forevermore be identified with the Lord—(vs. 4).

7. No night will darken Heaven. No light of any sort will be needed, "for the Lord God giveth them light." —vs. 5.)

8. God's Children will reign with Him "for ever and ever"—(vs. 5).

Who will be permitted access into this wonderful and glorious city? "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: **but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life**" (21:27). The Great Invitation is now extended to all mankind: "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (22:17).

All men, therefore, are freely invited to make preparation to enter the Heavenly City. The way has been opened. The invitation has been given. He who **hears**, and **comes**, and **accepts** the terms of Jesus Christ may enter. Time is running out. The Lord says, "Surely I come quickly." Whatever is done must be done NOW.

COME!!

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

HOW TO VISIT EFFECTIVELY

"THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR CONSECRATED SHOE LEATHER." With this quotation from George A. Buttrick we present the following principles of effective visitation. These rules were used by canvassers in Ashland during a house-to-house campaign to raise money for a new Y. M. C. A. building; only a few minor changes were necessary to adapt them to the Sunday school situation.

1. **You must be a sincere Christian.** This is basic. You must first be sold on your product before you can sell others. Only after you've given your whole life to Christ can you talk effectively to others about doing the same.

2. **Know the facts.** People like to do business with a person who knows what he's doing. Know the facts and take time to explain them carefully to each prospect. People still don't know all about Christ and His church, so it's your job to tell them.

3. **Be positive.** There's no reason why you should be timid or apologize to anyone. Let your prospect talk. Get him saying "yes" to all your questions. Don't beat around the bush. Be direct and to the point, but never argue.

4. **Face to face.** Telephone visitation is good, but personal calls are better. Billions of dollars have been raised by personal interviews. Why shouldn't souls be raised from sin the same way? There is still no substitute for a man-to-man talk.

5. **Let them look.** Give the prospect a Sunday school paper or attractive pamphlet, a church bulletin or Bible class quarterly. If you are dealing with the question of salvation, let him read the Scripture references from the Bible for himself.

6. **Keep the prospect card out of sight.** It's very disturbing for you to be fumbling with the card when you should be listening carefully to the other person.

7. **Leave a decision card.** If this is the first call in an unchurched home, leave a card which they may sign to accept Christ or transfer their church membership to your church. But don't proselyte local church members.

8. **Make repeat calls.** In selling, the fourth follow-up brings the highest results. Don't settle for too little or close too quickly. If the prospect hesitates, ask him to think it over. Make an appointment to come back and then bow out gracefully.

9. **Work in pairs.** In addition to being more interesting, it's much more effective. One should lead in the conversation while the other stays in the background. However, it isn't always necessary to work in pairs. Don't put off your calling indefinitely while you are looking or waiting for a partner.

10. **Attend workers' meetings.** These meetings are sales conferences where problems are ironed out and results are reported. There is no substitute for being present as a participating member—whatever the objective.

The above rules will build Sunday schools as well as Y. M. C. A.'s only if they are applied. Study them, pray about them, and then put feet under your prayers. "THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR CONSECRATED SHOE LEATHER."

An Interesting Fable

A man was hunting in the forest when a storm came up. Looking about for shelter from the rain, he found and crawled into a hollow log, which fitted quite snugly. The rain lasted for hours and soaked through the wood. The log began to contract.

When the storm was over, the hunter was unable to get out. The log held him tight, and finally exhausted, the man gave up, knowing that he would soon starve to death. His life flashed before him.

Suddenly he remembered that he had not attended Sunday school regularly and had not been supporting the church. This made him feel so small he was able to crawl out of the log without any difficulty. —Selected.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

The Sport Page

GOOD AFTERNOON ladies and gentlemen of the sports world. Football season is here again. Your local high school teams already have a couple of games under their belts and the nation's top college teams are swinging into action. The Ashland College Eagles encountered Manchester College last Saturday and they play Wooster College on September 22.

LISTEN! You can hear the band playing the school song and that new march they learned. Look at those cheerleaders stir up the school spirit. Are you going to the bon fire and pep rally next Thursday night before the big game? Did you see Tom on crutches yesterday at school? If we have another losing season, it won't take us long to get another coach. Boy, I hope we beat Centerville Tech this year. Remember what they did last season to our small and inexperienced squad.

Yes, football season is here again. Many Brethren Youth will either be on the team or in the stands to give of their time, energy and spirit to aid in producing victory. I, personally, love the game of football very much. Without question it is the sport I would rather watch and participate in above all others. I say these things remembering my battlescars from past misfortunes on the gridiron. From these experiences I can also recall how excited and enthusiastic several hundreds of people can become over a fumble or a touchdown. Some even think the world is going to come to an end if their favorite teams happens to lose.

Football can also be thought of as a training ground for leadership, character, sportsmanship and physical endurance. Football is really a great game!

BUT WHILE THE AMBASSADORS were traveling from Waterloo, Iowa to Cerro Gordo, Illinois on September 10, I let my mind wander and began musing a bit about the connection between the game of football and the game of Christian Life. And, as much as I like football, I readily admit that this "game" of living for Jesus Christ is the greatest for each one of us.

If advance notices were issued and posted, they might read that the game to be played everyday is the

AMBASSADORS of LOVE

versus

PROMOTERS of HATRED

Since the teams are already on the field of play, it is necessary to give you . . .

THE LINE-UP

AMBASSADORS		PROMOTERS
Trust	E	Indifference
Faith	T	Self-sufficienc
Friendship	G	Animosity
Salvation	C	Damnation
Kindness	G	Prejudice
Knowledge	T	Ignorance
Truth	E	Falsehood
Love	QB	Hatred
Peace	HB	War
Hope	HB	Doubt
Prayer	FB	Self

PLAY BY PLAY

The plays from scrimmage that take place in this gam are different in each one of our lives, so it is impossibl to relate a play-by-play account for you. But this on thing is certain. You must decide, by the life you ar living and the choices you make, for which side you ar cheering.

Check that line-up again. Are you playing tackle o the team where Satan calls the plays or are you in tha huddle where Jesus Christ gives guidance and instructio for the next move to be made? You're either one plac or the other, for no one is allowed to run up and dow the field trying to play for both squads. A "lukewarm athlete doesn't stay in the game long.

Have we made this challenge of living for Christ an following His virtues too down-to-earth? I hope not. Fin your position on the right team. Associate with the othe members of the squad who can, and are willing, to teac you to play the position well. They can be easily foun at Sunday School, Church services, Brethren Youth Cr sader meetings and daily Bible study. But you must see them out and accept what they have for you to learn.

PLAY THE GAME WELL. Give it every ounce strength and sincerity you've got. Make your trainir schedule rigid and tough so you will be in top "spiritua condition when the contest is at its height. Then you wi be an asset to your team—the "team" we know is g ing to win.

UNCONNECTED

It's all right to begin at home, but go ye into all tl world.

Seen on a church bulletin board by the Ambassado as they traveled:

"The world is full of willing people. Half of them a willing to work and the other half is willing to let them

JOIN THE BRETHREN YOUTH BOOSTER CLUB

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

RECENTLY, I was visiting friends in the beautiful country side of Pennsylvania. The scenery was gor-eous. No artist could put upon canvas the beauty of od's handiwork which is everywhere.

As I meditated upon God's word, the presence of our leavenly Father was very close. This scripture verse ame to me. "For every beast of the forest is mine, and he cattle upon a thousand hills." Psalm 50:10, and also salm 121:1, 2, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, rom whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the ord, which made heaven and earth." What a precious romise to the Christian to know His abiding love in-wells our hearts. Earthly things will pass away but is word will never pass away.

Several years ago I was desperate ill; my life hung in he balance as it were. While being taken to the operating oom Psalm 121 came to me also, "The Lord is MY Shep-erd; I shall not want." As I talked to my Lord, a sweet eace flooded my soul. "Not my will, Lord but Thine be one." The prayers of friends and Brethren were an-wered. The Lord brought me through for His honor and lory.

He is a wonderful Saviour. Let ust trust our Lord and aviour and be not afraid. He will take us through every rial. Some days may be sunny and others stormy but emember:

"Just when I need Him most,
Just when I need Him most;
Jesus is near to comfort and cheer,
Just when I need Him most."

(William C. Poole.)

We need to pray more. No matter how we pray, if ur hearts are not in tune with God, our prayers do not o any higher than our lips.

People are reading our lives. We are the only Bible ome people read. Let us make our testimony count by iving lives pleasing to God.

Do not neglect the assembling of ourselves together n God's house for Sunday School, morning and evening vorship service, prayer meeting and other organizations f our church. The folks who PRAY together stay to-ether.

"As the earth needs the clouds and sunshine,
Our souls need both sorrow and joy;
So He places us oft in the furnace,
The dross from the gold to destroy.

As we travel through life's shadowed valley,
Fresh springs of His love ever rise;
And we learn that our sorrows and losses,
Are blessings just sent to disguise.

So we'll follow wherever He leadeth,
Let the path be dreary or bright;
For we've proved that our God will give comfort,
Our God can give songs in the night."

(Unknown.)

Mrs. Leona V. Wallace,
Sergeantsville, New Jersey.

FAST. Mrs. Florence Fast, aged 91, passed to her reward, June 12, 1956. Mrs. Fast had been a long time member, contributing much when our present building was built in 1908. She had been staying with her daughter at Delfi, Ind., for the past several years. Member, Roanoke Brethren Church.

P. D. Tinkel.

A NEW BIBLE FOR THE BLIND OF JAPAN

On August 6, 1956 there was a large service at the Ginza Church in downtown Tokyo, as both sighted and blind persons came to celebrate the completion of the New Japanese Kogati (colloquial) Braille Bible for the blind of Japan. This Bible is in 32 volumes requiring five feet of shelf space. The Old Testament is in 24 volumes and the New Testament in 8. As the new edition is in the language which all the people of Japan can easily understand, it will be widely welcomed by finger-tip readers wherever Japanese is spoken. There are 140,000 blind persons in Japan.

BIBLES FOR TWA PLANES

Bibles are now being placed on all of the new Super-G Constellation airplanes of Trans-World Airlines. Captain G. C. Duvall, a pilot for TWA on the Chicago-Los Angeles run, recently was presented with a Bible to place on the Super-G plane he would be flying. It was Captain Duvall who suggested several years ago that in addition to a full supply of current magazines on each plane there should be a Bible. Since then TWA has carried Bibles furnished by the American Bible Society, on all TWA flights in the United States. Captain Duvall discussed his plan with the late Ralph S. Damon, president of TWA who thought the idea was a good one.

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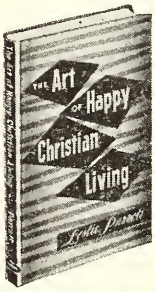

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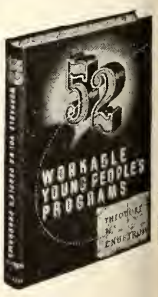

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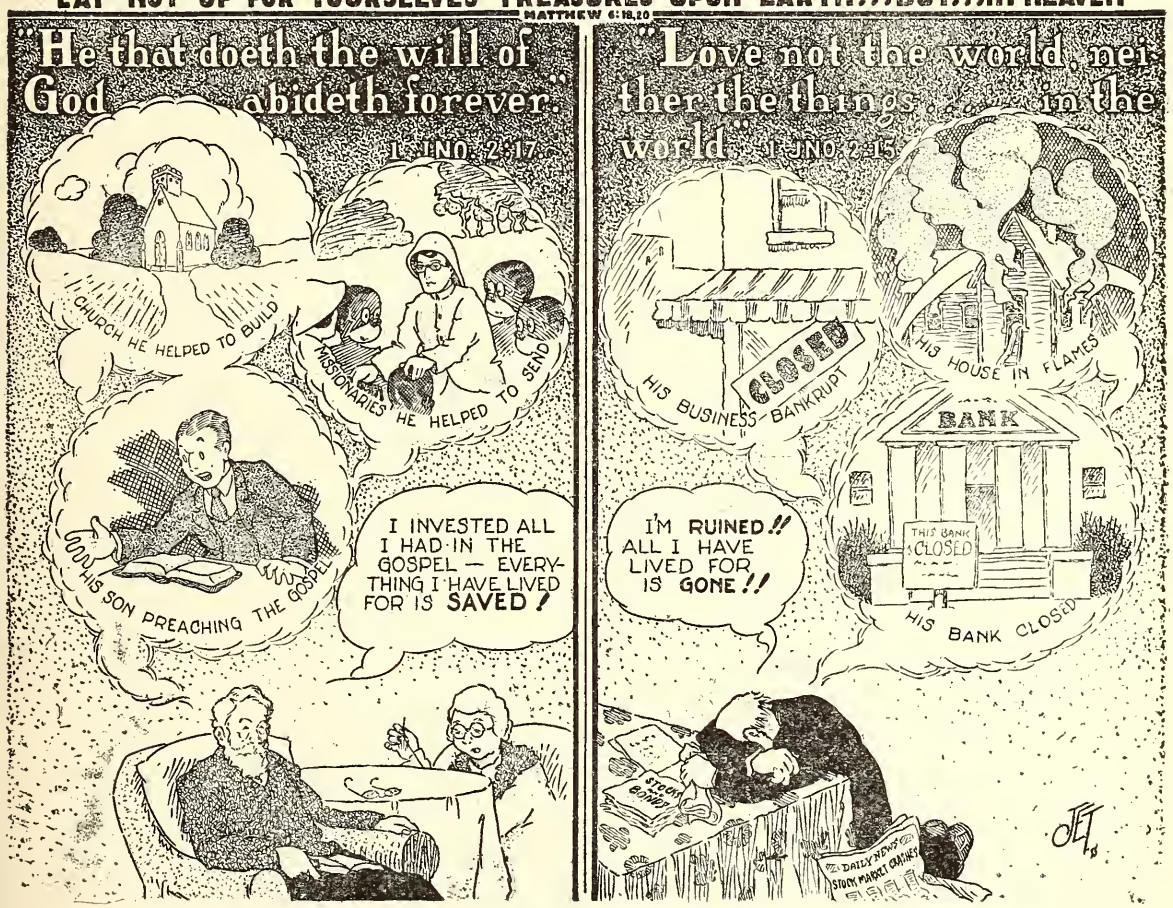
"LAY NOT UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES UPON EARTH...BUT...IN HEAVEN"
MATTHEW 6:19,20



VOL. LXXVIII September 29, 1956 No. 38

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. "Cleaning Evening" was an event of September 11th, when the members and friends gathered at the new parsonage to clean and ready it for the arrival of their new pastor, Brother Lyle Lichtenberger, and family. The Lichtenberger's household goods arrived in Sarasota the last of August. As of this writing, the Lichtenbergers are now living in their new home, and are at work in this promising new field.

OAK HILL, W. VA. Baptismal services were held on August 26th.

Brother Milton M. Robinson reports the addition of six new members as a result of their recent Revival Meetings.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Brother Freeman Ankrum notes in his bulletin that much needed floor covering for the parsonage kitchen and bath room has recently been selected. Paper was also selected for the kitchen. Brother Ankrum adds: "When this is completed, the entire first floor will have been renovated and redecorated."

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Brother Elmer M. Keck writes to the Editor the fact that he has recently been to the Brethren's Home in Flora, Indiana, and has taken new pictures of the residents. He says that he is having some black and white prints made, for use in publishing the pictures in the **Evangelist.** (The publishing of the pictures of the Brethren's Home residents and their birthdays has become an annual feature of the **Evangelist.** They will appear at a later date. ED.)

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Brother W. D. Keeling was guest speaker in the Masontown Methodist church on September 2nd.

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. Brother H. R. Garland reports the baptism of one recently and adds that this makes a total of 10 received into the church since the first of April.

Remodelling work on the Sunday School Class rooms was scheduled to begin late in September.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. Richard Allison, Ashland Seminary student, was guest speaker in the Williamstown church at morning and evening services on September 23rd.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO, GRETNA BRETHREN. Brother George W. Solomon reports the baptism of five new members on September 16th.

CANTON, OHIO, TRINITY BRETHREN. Open House was observed at the parsonage on September 23rd.

BRYAN, OHIO. Brother Alvin H. Grumbling reports: "Our parking lot is coming along nicely. Some 136 tons of stone have been hauled in, and it is usable now. A curbing is yet to be put in along the north side."

WARSAW, INDIANA. Our sympathies to Brother and Sister Robert Holsinger in the loss of infant Brian Thomas Holsinger, born September 12th and who passed away September 14th. Graveside services were conducted September 15th by Dr. R. F. Porte.

Brother H. E. Eppley filled the Warsaw pulpit on September 16th.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Clint Milliken, a nationally known magician who has attended the South Bend church for some time, and Pastor J. D. Hamel, are scheduled to combine magic and a Biblical message Sunday evening September 30th.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates has inaugurated a "Book of the Week" Club, as of September 9th. Members received a check sheet on which each week, they can keep a record of their progress in Bible reading. The next Sunday evening, Brother Bates brings a message based upon the theme of the "Book of the Week." Emphasis in the current program is on Old Testament books of the Bible.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Mrs. E. J. Black brought the morning and evening messages in the Muncie church on September 2nd.

Brother Kenneth Howard was guest speaker in the Muncie church at morning and evening services on September 9th and 16th.

Let us continue to remember Brother Black in our prayers, that he might experience a full recovery to health.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Brother R. K. Higgins was the Homecoming speaker at the Salem EUB church the afternoon of September 16th.

Brother Higgins is the scheduled speaker at the Lore Brethren Homecoming on October 7th.

(Continued on Page 15)

(COMING EVENTS ON PAGE 15)

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

How Much?

CHURCH LITERATURE — Denominational magazines, local church bulletins—pastors and religious leaders—are pretty fairly consistent in the effort of teaching Christian Stewardship. The effectiveness of their teachings, though, is another matter.

A look at the facts and figures reveal that the average contribution by the members of 41 church bodies in 1955 averaged $48.81. This figure, reported in the annual "Yearbook of American Churches," varies only slightly from that of $48.48, as reported for Protestant bodies in the U. S. and Canada, in "Stewardship Facts."

There being 52 weeks in the year, it indicates that the entire Protestant Christendom is being supported in the U. S. and Canada on an amount of less than $1.00 per week per member! If this amount were evaluated by the instruction of the Tithe, it would mean that the average Protestant family is earning $10.00 per week per member belonging to church—or $500.00 a year per church member in the family.

We must keep in mind that this is **average.** Some church groups—the Wesleyan Methodist Church, at $176.91 per member—and Seventh Day Adventists, at $173.94 per member—far exceed the average. "Stewardship Facts" notes that there are seven church bodies whose annual average giving is more than $100 per member. This is more than twice the national average; the leading groups are giving more than 3½ times the national average. Some church bodies must necessarily be very low in their giving. They are.

Several questions come to mind. If some groups can do it, why can't we? How do they do it in the face of arguments we ordinarily hear from people about giving to the Church—and to its Denominational programs?

The above questions are important to us inasmuch as "Stewardship Facts" lists our average per member giving as below the national average—or $43.82 per member! The figures are accurate, too, because they were taken from our 1955-56 Brethren Annual.

Elsewhere in this issue of the **Evangelist** we have given you a report of our churches which have responded to the request of the Co-Ordinating Finance Committee to send in their per capita giving to Denominational work. The suggested **minimum**, you will remember, was $12.00 per member per year. "Stewardship Facts" reports our average Denominational giving as $8.37 per member.

The record stands. Out of this $43.82 per member average, we are supporting our local church work at the rate of 5 to 1 in relation to our giving to our Denominational work—the outreach of the church. **It looks very much that since we are supporting our local work sufficiently well, that our vision needs to be raised to where we shall be supporting the outreach of the church by an equal amount.** If such were the case, our total giving even then, would be just about **half** of what leading church bodies are now doing!

Before we start making excuses about any phase of our giving, let us go back and ask ourselves again the question, "If other church bodies can give $150 or more a year per member, why can't we?" We are not going to answer it now. What we want you to do is to study the cartoon on the frontis of this magazine, to read the excellent stewardship message by Pastor Horace Huse in this issue, to read the Missionary Board page, and the report of the Co-Ordinating Finance Committee. We want pastors to read and study the copies of "Stewardship Facts" as supplied recently by the Missionary Board, to preach sermons and conduct classes of Stewardship in which the stewardship experiences of other churches as found in this interesting booklet are expounded. Do all of this prayerfully and in the spirit of dedication, and you will have your answer to the question.—W. S. B.

The Church as a Steward

Rev. Horace Huse

"CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP," writes Dr. Walton H. Greever, secretary emeritus of the United Lutheran Church, "is the practice of the Christian religion."

That puts the emphasis right where it belongs. Christian stewardship is what I do after I have once said, "I believe." It's the response of my whole life to Christ out of gratitude for His redeeming love that meant death on the cross. It's the giving of everything I am and everything I have to Him to be used as He directs. It's total commitment, and willing witnessing on the basis of such a commitment. It's the fruitage of my life. It's faith in action. It is the "good works" that Luther insists "are compelled by faith." I repeat, Christian stewardship is what I do after I have once said, "I believe."

Christian stewardship is not merely one way of expressing my faith and devotion to God. It is rather the commitment of my whole life to Him. It is not only returning to God a portion of the material blessings He had given me, but the full dedication to Him of everything I have—my money, my interests, my abilities and energies, my loyalty, my service, my time,—all my life's resources. No, not just a portion of them; but all of them. Not in an attitude of paying a debt—for God's gifts are without money and without price. It is the gift of my whole life to Him—my whole life in thanksgiving to Him for His grace.

Christian stewardship always begins with God and His goodness to me. It is false if it is rooted anywhere else. Stewardship practiced in the hope of earning special favors from God or as a way of salvation is unworthy of the name. Christian stewardship is my spontaneous response to God's love for me and His goodness to me—His daily forgiveness of my sins, His hourly provision for my needs, His constantly abiding presence giving me His own abundant life. And for all that, if I am a real Christian, I am compelled to give Him my best—my all.

However, in searching for ways to express my gratitude to God, I will find it easy to slip heedlessly into the snare of the popular religionist who by his wilful ignorance tells me that a Christian's stewardship is fulfilled by regular church attendance, by serving on boards and committees, and by regular offerings. So in self-righteous assent I may fall into the same rut comfortably lived in for many years by so many self-styled Christians. But if I would know the meaning of true Christian stewardship, I will find it only as I strive to live out the example of my Lord's life in the days of His flesh. I will give encouragement to the despairing, comfort to the sorrowing, forgiveness to the wrongdoer, help to the needy, love to the unlovely. I will share my life with all with whom I associate, bringing joy and peace and hope to as many of them as I can, in spite of my own problems, and vexations, and sorrows. I will bring them face to face with a kind and merciful Heavenly Father who wants only their love and fellowship, and seeks above all else the highest fulfillment of their lives in communion with Him. I will give myself and all I have to my fellowmen in joyful, sacrificial service, remembering how Christ has given Himself to me without measure. Christ alone can be the standard for my giving, the measure of my stewardship.

Now if this is the real picture of Christian stewardship, and I believe that it is, what is true of the individual Christian life must of necessity apply to the fellowship of the many Christians in the life of the church. Just as at its highest idealism in the time of the apostles, when "the company of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common . . . And distribution was made to each as any had need" (Acts 4:32, 35); so today the church awaits the transforming power of such dedication of life and property. And in the power of this spirit of service the church will once again turn the world upside down with its gospel of love and hope.

But if the empowerment of the church depends upon its spirit of sacrifice and dedication to the stewardship of the gospel of Christ, how is it to attain this ideal as long as it continues to selfishly place its major emphasis upon providing for itself, and letting its service to the world come out of the surplus, or worse yet, give no forethought to its program of service at all? Not that the local church should make no effort to be self-supporting—it should make every effort to do so; but the tragic truth is that few Brethren Churches show an adequate foresight in planning their programs of service at all.

In 1955 we kept hearing warnings of an imminent recession or depression in this country. But what gave

(Vice Moderator's Address—Pennsylvania District Conference—Johnstown, Pa., July 16, 1956.)

the American people more faith in the future than anything else was the steel industry's increased budgets for expansion in 1956. Did you hear of any increase in budget for expansion in your church? How in the world are the members of our churches, let alone those who are not, going to see evidence of vision and progress in the Brethren Churches when we don't even take the trouble to make up a budget for the coming year? If any business tried to operate by such slipshod methods, it would go bankrupt in short order. Are not our churches more important to us than any business? Then should not their programs be planned with equal or even greater care and foresight than we give our businesses?

Our churches need to teach the deadliness of the sins of selfishness, covetousness, and greed. But when it comes time to consider expanding the program of the church, the hue and cry is to cut expenses, as though the lower the costs, the better it is for the church. Brethren, this is not the religion our Lord knew and lived and taught. The living expression of His faith is found in His giving: giving sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, health to the sick, life to the dead; giving strength to the weary, hope to the despairing, love to the sinner, forgiveness to the penitent. We can do no less, if we are to be like Him. We must give as He gave—to the last ounce of strength, to the last drop of blood.

In its business dealings, does the church expect to pay market prices for its purchases? Perhaps some do; but many do not. They insist upon discounts or they refuse to do business. The church is not a charity institution. It has no right to expect honest business men to sell to it at below market prices. If the merchant, of his own choice and out of love for God, makes such a gift to the church, it should be received with gratitude and acknowledged as a gift. I know a businessman who makes it a matter of personal pride to give a 10% discount on all purchases by church organizations. I feel quite certain that this is a substitute for Christian stewardship. Now I ask you, what is this doing to that man's soul?

Another unethical business practice often practiced by the church is to go into business, selling dinners, merchandise, and other things. But is this not unfair competition with the Christian restaurant owner and merchant? Certainly it is not the Spirit of Christ that prompts these unchristian ideas of stewardship in the church. If the church is to lead its members into the grace of generous giving and dedicated living, it must first practice an irreproachable stewardship itself.

At present, our Brethren missionary program is curtailed far below its real potential. Our church extension program is very limited. We allow our aged, dependent ministers and their widows to live on a mere pittance. —and even this recently had to be cut. Our college and seminary are in debt. And still our local churches plod along their way, giving little heed to the needs of the denomination, or of the world, or even to the deeper needs of the members whose lives are being shriveled up by their selfish giving habits. It is evident, then, is it not, that both as individuals and churches we desperately need to be converted from selfishness and hypocrisy to a Christlike awareness of our stewardship of everything we have.

Are You Willing to Give the Lord His Share

The time has come when we must give ourselves wholly to the task of saving the world, not only from spiritual lostness, but also from physical destruction. We cannot help but know that God is as concerned for the ignorant, ill-clad, undernourished, diseased millions of our world as He is for us who by His grace are rich in this world's goods. And if God is concerned, so must we be concerned, if we really mean to love and serve Him.

We need to look upon others as our Lord Jesus saw them, as our brothers in need. We need to give ourselves in compassion and mercy to those who, perhaps unknown even to themselves, are seeking some better way of life. We need to share our superabundance of wealth with our poverty-stricken neighbors at home and across the seas. We need to insist upon equality of opportunity and upon the dignity of all men both in our own country and in all the world. We need to share our medical, scientific, and agricultural achievements with those who are hopelessly and helplessly watching the world go by their poverty-stricken doors. We must share our educational and cultural advantages with the fear-ridden, underprivileged nations and races of the entire world. We must minister the grace of God to the war-torn peoples of Algeria, Egypt, Syria, Israel, Jordan, Poland, Korea, Argentina, China, Russia. We must take the light of the knowledge of God and His love to the yellow and olive-skinned peoples of Asia, to the red-skinned natives of the Americas, to the dark-skinned races of Africa, and, yes, even to the white men of Europe and America. We must do these things, not because it is good politics, not because it is necessary to avert war and stave off communism, but because as Christian stewards, in gratefulness to God for His super-abundant provision of the good things of life, we have to share our blessings with others.

What has been our response to these needs in the past? The Co-Ordinating Finance Committee of the General Conference reported last year that an average of less than ½ of 1% of our Brethren families' income went to mission work in 1954. Our average per member giving is below that of all churches combined. Instead of the Scriptural standard of 10%, our national average is 3%. This means that our church, which has long claimed to be a New Testament Church, is actually carrying a 70%

debt on its Christian stewardship. We could do 3 times as much Christian missionary and benevolent work as we are now doing—if we were really a stewardship-minded church.

This is not an impossible goal. The Church of the Nazarene, in spite of its much larger total membership, which ordinarily lowers a church's average, has a per capita giving of $118 per year—nearly 3 times that of our church. The Seventh Day Adventists give $173 per member; the Wesleyan Methodists give $170; and the Free Methodists give $194 per member per year.

Thus it is readily seen that the basic need of the Brethren Church is an awakening to our stewardship responsibility. I am probably in the main speaking to church leaders here tonight. You may be thinking, perhaps somewhat indignantly, that you are doing your part, and it is unfair to saddle the blame on the church for the indifference of its fringe members. I am quite sure that this is the prevailing attitude when Christian stewardship is presented, as I am presenting it, as a responsibility of the church.

On the other hand, neither am I so naive as to think that such a protest always means that you are making full proof of your stewardship. In fact, it seems to be a characteristic of our human natures that those who object most strongly to being reminded of responsibility are the ones with guilty consciences, sometimes not even realizing why we feel so "het up" about it. However, be that as it may, you who are honestly and fully committed to the service of God through the work of your church, your responsibility does not end with your own devotion. Jesus told Peter that when he was converted, he should convert his brethren also. Likewise, when you are converted from the pagan worship of your money and time and abilities and all the other resources of your life which God has so abundantly given you, your next responsibility is the dedication of your life to converting your brethren, for many church members are in as great need of conversion from the sin of idol-worship as the heathen of the remotest part of the Amazon jungle. The church has here a very real need for the ministry of the grace of God within its own doors.

Your first step in leading your church into a definite stewardship commitment is to conduct an Every Member Canvass of your members. The opportunities for presenting the challenge of real Christian stewardship to each member of the church by means of the Every Member Canvass are unlimited. In the first place, an imaginative and instructive publicity campaign will reach everyone who is ministered to by your church with stewardship instruction, and will start him thinking about the importance of the church in his life. Secondly, the preparation for such a canvass involves the training of workers and leaders for their task of visiting their fellow members. There is no better method of discovering new leadership and giving a vital task to each consecrated layman. Furthermore, as these laymen are being trained and as the entire program takes shape, the spiritually enlarging process of deeper consecration in response to the greater awareness of stewardship responsibility is bound to spill over into the whole congregation. It is contagious.

Then, as the visitors go out to tell the story of their church and its program, both locally and world-wide, to their fellow members, and as they challenge them to deeper spiritual commitment to Christ through the financial program of their church, they will be performing spiritual service of infinite value. They will be strengthening the bonds of unity, both in the local congregation and throughout the brotherhood. They will discover problems and needs to which they can minister the understanding and healing of the Spirit of Christ. They will make new contacts for Christ and the church. And when they have completed their work, they will have the joy of a real sense of high achievement. Besides this, the work of God will take on a far more personal meaning to the whole congregation, and, because the church has worked together, it will be strengthened and its ministry will be far more effective. No more effective method of deepening the spiritual life of the individual Christian and of the church has so far been devised than the Every Member Canvass.

The next step in the church's stewardship program is to channel its renewed spiritual commitment into a program of service. This involves carefully preparing a budget which will reflect the consecration of time, talent, possessions, and life achieved by the canvass. This is not the job for a penny-pinching finance committee. It requires the careful planning of unprejudiced, optimistic minds alert to the opportunities for expansion and growth of their church's service to men and God. Unless a worthy financial program is planned, all gained by the Every Member Canvass is likely to be lost. There is nothing more deadening to a church than dim vision and faint heartedness on the part of its leaders.

This budget will reveal more than any other thing the vision of the church and its devotion to its task. A budget that is self-centered, providing mainly for its own needs and giving only the left-overs to the nationa

(Continued on Page 11)

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
30 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

Significant Stewardship Principles and Statements

— from the General Conference Stewardship Workshop

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP is the practice of systematic and proportionate giving of time, abilities and material possessions, based on the conviction that these are a trust from God, to be used in His service for the benefits of all mankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

A budget is a guide to spending and not a guide to giving.

The every-member canvass or enlistment is not an end in itself, but it is a means to a number of ends. It presents an opportunity to grow in the grace of giving. Such grace makes us thoughtful, unselfish and sacrificial.

What the Every Member Canvass Does:

- It gives the individual an opportunity to fulfill his financial responsibility to God;
- It settles the problem of raising money;
- It honors God;
- It brings a revival to people and to the church;
- It prepares leaders.

In building a financial program (budget) in the local church, the supreme consideration is not how much money do we need? but how much more could we accomplish for the Lord if every member gave regularly, systematically and as the Lord prospered him?

There are two phases to the financial program of the local church—current expense and benevolence. The current expense phase covers all of the activities carried on in the local church. The benevolence phase covers the work of the denomination, such as missions, college and seminary, publications, etc.

Envelopes with two compartments for weekly giving to both current expenses and benevolences are an aid to giving and to recording the gifts. Quarterly payments can be made toward the denominational interests from the benevolence contributions by the benevolence treasurer or the regular church treasurer.

The contributions for benevolences can be divided by the local church on a percentage basis. The following scale of percentages has been used by some Brethren churches:

Foreign missions	15%
Home missions	22%
District missions	10%
Ashland College & Seminary	13%
Ashland College Scholarship	5%
Brethren Youth	6%
Brethren Publishing Company	5%
National Sunday School Board	6%
District Trustees	3½%
Brethren Home & Benevolent Board	1%
National Conference	½%
Evangelism	½%

This is not complete, but is suggestive to churches beginning this type of budget system. It should be remembered that these percentages can be adjusted up or down from time to time as circumstances warrant.

PACKET TO PASTORS

A packet of literature on stewardship and missions is being sent to pastors by the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church. The packet contains a fine poster on giving, a copy of "Stewardship Facts" for the pastor—or anyone who wishes to use it—and for each W. M. S. president, and a copy of "Brethren Missions in Nigeria." Be sure to make use of these splendid materials. (In the event that your church is without a pastor or if your pastor is leaving and we are not certain when the new one will arrive, we will send this packet to the church secretary.)

Dr. Clayton's Address to the Ashland College Faculty

Saturday, September 8, 1956

Also being a message of Timely Importance to all Brethren!

I WELCOME YOU to this, the seventy-eighth year of Ashland College, the seventy-eighth in a series of years of varying fortune, sometimes of trial and error, again of trial by ordeal, but always of noble purpose and supreme devotion. I welcome you confident in the knowledge of a rich heritage of great teaching, of heroic sacrifice and above all, of a host of men and women who are today a living testimonial of the glorious contribution made by Ashland College to church and community.

The success of this continuing program in its seventy-eighth year will depend upon you and me for we have inherited the work for this year. This is a high calling. It is more than a job. It is a mission, an assignment passed on to us by those who have labored here before in the expectation that we will be worthy of what they have accomplished. What we do will live on in our students and in the tradition of Ashland College for future faculties and student bodies in times yet to come.

As we begin our work, it will be well to keep in mind the broad aspects of its meaning and shape our plans accordingly.

First, let it be remembered always that this is a Christian College. By this term we do not necessarily mean that all our faculty will be of one mind and attitude relative to the teachings and message of the Lord Jesus Christ or to the relationship of God and man, nor do we mean that our students are selected as dedicated Christians of a particular persuasion or school of thought. On the contrary we know and expect that they will differ broadly as indicating an evangelizing Christian force to convert sinners or to lead the saved into ever-narrowing channels of Christian prejudice, but we do dare to hope that our labors will lead many closer to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ as their Redeemer.

Rather, we view the Christian College as beginning with the promise of the centrality of God and of Jesus Christ His Son as the source of all knowledge and wisdom, the only absolute truth, and the only hope for life everlasting.

Within this framework we are free to explore the mysteries of science, the relationships of man, the play of great ideas, and the depths of reflective thinking. We recognize and exalt the church as the divinely ordained organ of Christian evangelism and proudly claim our allegiance to it. Though related to and sponsored by the Brethren Church, one denomination of protestantism, we recognize sister denominations and beliefs and welcome both students and faculty as we work together toward the common Christian goals.

The Christian college, thus constituted fills an extremely influential position in a world which is hungry for life's highest spiritual values. It is here that these values are interpreted and cultivated. Here all the traditions and rich heritage of the Christian faith can and should be readily stressed. It is here alone that the study of religion may furnish the unity needed for a complete educational program.

Second, let it be always remembered that Ashland College is a fully accredited college in the liberal arts tradition. The primary function of our task is the training of the minds of young men and women. This by no means implies that we ignore the areas just mentioned, or the physical and social development of the student. O

he contrary, we willingly accept responsibility n these areas. The fact remains, however, that f the church college cannot offer training equivlent to that of the secular college on the same cademic level, it has no justification for existnce as an educational institution.

The key to scholarly atmosphere rests with the aculty. Fine buildings and equipment lose their lamour, spirited athletic programs dim into inignificance, and well-meaning religious leaderhip falls short of its goal when esteem for high tandards of scholarship and the genuine desire or acquaintance with great minds are lost.

Our faculty is well trained and fully qualified o provide the intellectual spark which will feed he flames of learning this year. Let us begin at he outset of this year to exalt scholarship and eep learning in the dignified place it must have f we are to be worthy of the name of a college. et no opportunity to encourage young minds in heir search for these precious gems go unheeded.

Third, let us try to be informed about the proram of Ashland College. It is my job and yours o know as much as possible about the total proram of which we are a part. Keep a catalog andy and know what is in it. Be familiar with he faculty handbook. Familiarize yourself with ther departments and their objectives as well s your own. Use the library.

Acquaint yourself with the ten-year program f development and be able to discuss it with thers. The program will benefit you as it moves long and you can assist that growth by your nthusiastic support.

Fourth, remember you are a part of a team. The effective operation of the whole program epends largely upon how well you play your part. As an employee of the Board of Trustees f Ashland College, you have cast your lot with hem for this year. If you choose to do so, you an do much to promote an atmosphere of enthusiasm for the college and its program. In so doing, you will make your work as a teacher easier and much more pleasant and effective. Your confidence will breed confidence; your smile will beget other smiles; your positive leadership will make possible a really effective learning situation.

These, then, are the thoughts I would place before you as we begin our seventy-eighth year. They are not new, but they are time-tested and will prove of utmost importance as the year progresses.

DR. GLENN L. CLAYTON, President, Ashland College and Seminary

I bespeak for us a great and inspiring experience together. We have the backing of the largest constituency ever known for Ashland College. More individuals, more corporations and more groups are showing tangible interest in us than ever before. The college enjoys a friendly interest from church, community, and industry which should prove most encouraging to us.

The Board of Trustees is unanimously backing our every move and watching with friendly concern as we launch this year. And the record is good. Every phase of the ten-year program shows a commendable degree of progress with promise for future growth. Let us briefly look at the record:

The ten year program has five major parts:

1. The enrollment optimum is to be 750 full time students. Three years ago the figure was 301, two years ago it was 419, last year it rose to 468.
2. Church-college relations are to be strengthened, the seminary promoted, and ministerial students encouraged. Under Dean Flora much

has been accomplished here. More is in the offing in the years immediately ahead.

3. Curricular studies are to be constant with a view to strengthening the scholastic standards and general standing of the college. Dean Lindower has led a commendable work in this area.

4. The plant is to be developed to provide space and equipment for 750 students. To date four buildings and much equipment have been added. A committee is at work on a women's dormitory, another is shaping plans for a science building, and a third will begin work on expansion of our library. Present value of our plant is $1,868,000 compared to $660,-600 in 1949 when the program was launched.

5. Adequate financial undergirding to carry on the proper work of the college is to be provided. Our operating budget in 1949 totaled $336,000. This year it is estimated at $650,-000. Some means of creating stable income to assist in financing this very large budget must be found.

Endowment now stands at $666,800 book value and $817,000 market value. Obviously this is far too low for the adequate meeting of our needs.

It is estimated that we should have $1,600,000 to meet the usual needs of the college over the next three or four years. This is a stupendous order, but not impossible. A survey of our potential. conducted this summer by Marts and Lundy, Inc., indicates that a campaign for both capital and operating funds may be feasable by 1957.

All this is a part of our work. It is a part of your interest in this seventy-eighth year of Ashland College. It deserves your enthusiastic support, your genuine interest, and your considered study. With these from you, I look forward to the best year in the history of Ashland College from every point of view. It can be just that if we want it so. Let us now resolve to make the seventy-eighth the greatest year in Ashland's history, for Christian fellowship, for intellectual growth, for pride in the institution, and above all, for an inspiring year together.

Ashland, Ohio

FEW CHURCHES REPORT BENEVOLENCES PER CAPITA GIVING

SEVERAL WEEKS prior to General Conference, W. Clayton Berkshire, secretary of the Co-Ordinating Finance Committee, requested through the **Brethren Evangelist** that all churches mail to him a report on their per capita giving for denominational interests during the conference year of 1955-56. Only a very few churches responded, but the majority of those had attained or very nearly attained the minimum standard of $12.00.

The following churches reported:

Berlin, Pennsylvania	$13.00
Brush Valley, Pennsylvania	Below minimum
Canton, Ohio	12.15
Denver, Indiana	13.81
Gretna (Bellefontaine, Ohio)	36.02
Louisville, Ohio	slightly below 11.99
Sarasota, Florida	slightly below 11.85
South Bend, Indiana	12.01
Terra Alta, W. Va.	Below minimum
Vinco, Pennsylvania	12.15
Williamstown, Ohio	Below minimum

We are indebted to the moderator of the Pennsylvania District for sending us the District Statistician's figures for all of the churches in that district. According to these figures only the Berlin and Vinco churches reached the minimum standard of $12.00 per member for denominational interests during the past conference year.

The committee is confident that other churches not reporting did attain this goal; furthermore, the committee would be glad to receive reports from churches not previously reporting. It would be good for every local church to be apprised of its own giving to benevolences.

Mail all reports to: **W. Clayton Berkshire, 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.**

THE CHURCH AS A STEWARD

(Continued from Page 6)

and world-wide work of the church, is bound to have a difficult time convincing its members that it is really stewardship-minded. The church's ideal is the golden rule: Love thy neighbor as thy self; in other words, "giving as much to others as we keep for ourselves." Real stewardship involves sacrifice. Therefore there must be elements of sacrifice in the financial program of the church if it would lead its members to the higher plateaus of Christian life and service.

Careful administration of the funds entrusted to the church by its members is another important aspect of its stewardship. All money must be handled by persons above reproach, in an honorable way, and in keeping with the financial program outlined by the budget, if the church is to retain the confidence of its members. Bills should be paid promptly, and missionary and benevolent offerings remitted on time. Accurate records of receipts and expenditures must be kept, and monthly, and annual reports should be faithfully made. Bonding the treasurer and auditing his books annually are good business procedures and protection to him.

A fourth opportunity for teaching Christian stewardship in the church is by its own wise and considerate use of time. Time is our most valuable possession; it is God's priceless gift: for it cannot be bought or sold. It must be used or it is lost. The church must set the example for its members in the stewardship of time. Whatever it plans must be worthwhile and the time consumed wisely budgeted. "The only thing worse than starting a meeting late," says one church leader, "is to close it late." The time of those who attend any meeting of the church is too valuable to be wasted, whether they come for worship, business, planning, recreation, or whatever it is.

On the other hand, neither dare we minimize the need to provide adequate time to plan and carry out the work of the church. It has been the sad lot of the church to have much of the available time of large numbers of its members consumed in doing the work its committees are supposed to do, which means that the larger work of programming has been slighted if not altogether neglected. How often it has been this minister's experience to wait through a long Official Board meeting while the duties of trustees, committees, and officers were discussed only to find the hour too late to adequately plan the ongoing program vital to the ministry of the church. Stewardship of time is indeed an essential grace of the church as well as of the individual Christian.

Another means of leading its members into fuller Christian commitment of their lives is for the church to undertake service projects and encourage its members to render their service through the program of the church. It is a fine thing to be known as a friendly church. Some churches are known for their wealth; others for their exclusiveness. But the ideal of the church of Jesus Christ is to imitate Him in service and to become known for the services rendered in the community and throughout the world by its members.

Finally, if you would see your church become a teacher of Christian stewardship, you will need to establish a strong, year-around stewardship education program, integrated into its total program. You will need to form a stewardship department or committee to counsel and work with the other educational agencies of the church and to supplement their programs with stewardship instruction and helps. For instance, it may supplement church school curriculum with stewardship materials, arrange for stewardship classes both for adults and for youth, plan stewardship institutes and workshops for teachers and leaders, and circulate books and leaflets pertaining to the broader as well as the more particular phases of stewardship. Other functions of this group would be to take advantage of special days and offerings in emphasizing the missionary and benevolent program of the church, to make a drive to discover the interests and abilities of all the members, and to plan worthwhile service projects that would enable each member to have a part in the program of the church. Of course, it is understood that the pastor will need to be a key figure in the work of this department or committee. But by enlisting and training a group of consecrated laymen in this vital phase of the Christian religion, the spiritual power of the church will be infinitely increased and the scope of its work and its influence infinitely broadened. It will then be able to approach the goal for which it was established—to win the world to Christ.

This brings me now to the point where I must ask you to search your heart and soul with the question, Is this what I really want to see the church achieve? I have been taught to believe and accept as the task of the church the winning of the world to Christ. But is this what I am personally most interested in? How easy it is to fool one another by pious words and acts and manners! How easy even to fool ourselves into thinking that we believe in something, when actually that is only a convenient device to hide our real motives and desires! That, I think, is why James wrote the familiar proverb, "Faith without works is dead." Jesus, too, once said that it is not that which goes into a person that defiles him, but rather what comes out of him. In other words, "as a man thinketh, so is he." No amount of whitewashing is going to change the inside of a house—or a man. We may say and indicate by our manner of speech and action that we believe that the greatest work in the world is the work of God's Kingdom. But if that work commands only a token interest in our giving of money, time, interest and abilities, it is as plain as the nose on your face that we aren't really so concerned about God's work as we say we are.

One major denomination suggests this spiritual equation: "Evangelism equals birth; Stewardship equals growth." Nothing can long survive that does not grow, including a church. What we do today determines the condition of Christ's church and His kingdom tomorrow. Stewardship is the switch that closes the circuit, releasing God's power in the life of the Christian and of the church. Do you really want your church to be charged with God's Spirit? Then lead your church to discover and set free this spiritual power by becoming a Christian steward and by leading your church to become a steward of the grace of God.

Meyersdale, Pennsylvania.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

FORGIVENESS

Contrite to God I came in sore distress.
"I know," I cried, "that 'twas but yester-eve
This self-same fault I asked Thee to forgive,
And promised to renounce all sinfulness.
Yet I would even ask again Thy grace,
Save that I fear I've drained forgiveness dry
And reached Thy mercy's utmost boundary!"
Then spake God's mighty voice and filled the place:
"With thy poor human tape, child, dost thou think
To measure My vast mercy's outer bound?
With thy short plummet at Forgiveness' brink
Dost think that thou canst test its depth of ground?
Drop in thy weightiest sin, and bid it sink,
To strike the bottom—there comes back no sound."

—Unknown.

AN HONEST CONFESSION that springs from godly sorrow for sin brings forgiveness and cleansing from God (1 John 1:9). In addition to confession there must be a forsaking of sin (Prov. 28:13). It is not enough to admit our sin but we are to take sides against our sin, plead guilty, condemn ourselves, and repent (1 Cor. 11:31). We are not only to hate evil but we are especially to hate the evil that is in our own lives (Psalm 97:10; Matt. 7:3-5).

God is just and faithful to forgive us of our repented sins on the basis of the blood of Christ shed for our sins (1 Peter 1:18, 19). Christ by His atoning work cancelled the eternal debt of sin for those who meet the conditions of forgiveness (Heb. 10:12-14). To have close and unbroken companionship with God we are to evade darkness, walk only in the light of God's truth, and keep our sins confessed and under the blood of Christ (1 John 1:3-7). God wants us not to sin, but when we do we must rely upon the Advocate provided for us with the Father (1 John 2:1-2). We have a One and only Mediator between us and God (1 Tim. 2:5). As our High Priest He makes intercession for us (Heb. 7:24-27). We should not hesitate but make haste to lay hold upon God's grace and mercy (Heb. 4:14-16). He is a God of just wrath against sin (Heb. 12:29), but tender-hearted toward those who are exercised with godly sorrow for sin (Psalm 103:8-14). He is so touched toward the penitent that He has pity for them and will see that their transgressions are far removed.

There can be no forgiveness without faith in Christ as our all sufficient Saviour (John 3:18, 36; 5:24). There can be no forgiveness without a cleansing from sin Psalm 51:3, 10, 17). There can be no forgiveness without admission, self-judgment, and restitution (Prov. 28:13; 1 Cor. 11:13; Luke 19:8). There can be no forgiveness without our eagerness to forgive (Matt. 18:27-35; Mark 11:25, 26; Col. 3:12, 13).

A forgiving heart is a joyful heart,
Grateful for pardon and peace.
A forgiving heart is a faithful heart;
Its patience shall never cease.

A forgiving heart is an humble heart—
Feels ever its own great need.
A forgiving heart is a gracious heart
And kindly in thought and deed.

A forgiving heart is a loving heart
That eternally shall live.
A forgiving heart is our Savior's heart . . .
It is Christlike to forgive.

Dessa A. Kreps.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for October 7, 1956

IN THE BEGINNING GOD

Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5, 9-12, 26-28, 31

IN THE NEXT THIRTEEN lessons we will be covering the "highlights" of the Word of God. Such a selection is difficult indeed. It is like choosing the most beautiful pearl from a string of matched pearls. All of God's Word is precious and vital to the maintenance of Christian life. There are, however, portions which stress the more fundamental truths, and these need to be emphasized.

To **begin** the study of the Bible one should start at the **beginning.** Not all do. To study about GOD, and MAN and SIN, and SALVATION, we must begin where God begins: "In the beginning God . . . "

There was a beginning to all existence. "Intelligent" men of the day would have us think that the world and all that is therein came into being by "chance"or by a phenomenon of nature. How foolish! The Psalmist was not fortunate enough to be as "intellectually enlightened" as we today, but he could say: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handy-work" (Psalm 19:1). In Nehemiah 9:6 we read: "Thou, even Thou, art LORD alone; Thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein and Thou preservest them all."

So this first verse of Genesis tells us that all things had a definite beginning—and more than that—GOD was the force behind all creation. It also reminds us that God is Eternal. As far back as the history of man can reach—yea, back into the eternal past before man ever came into existence—even before the world was—there was GOD! The Eternal, and Everlasting GOD!' The "Alpha and Omega, the first and the last" (Rev. 1:11) The finite mind of man cannot fathom this truth!

We have, then, in Genesis (the book of beginnings) not only the beginning of the heavens and the earth

of vegetation, and of animal life, but also the beginning of MAN. In spite of what some scientists and anthropologists would say, man did not just "evolve," nor is he a mishap of nature. Man is a created being! "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . . So God created man in His own image" (1:26-27).

"And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good." How is that so? A look about us today will clearly reveal that all that God made is not "good." Genesis 3 will supply the answer: the entrance of SIN into the world. All creation marred by sin. However, in God's great plan of Redemption there is provision for the restoration to perfection of all that He hath made. Those who trust in Him and in the atoning work of Christ on the cross will be redeemed body, soul, and spirit. The heavens and the earth now tainted by sin, will be destroyed by fire. "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness (II Peter 3:13).

"O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good: because His mercy endureth forever" (Ps. 118:1).

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

PUBLICIZE YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

ALERT SUNDAY SCHOOL superintendents are always looking for new ways to increase attendance. And in their search for sure-fire attendance builders, many overlook the obvious methods of publicizing the Sunday school.

Publicity is merely a device used to get attention, to let people know what you are doing. Some of the simplest methods often are the most effective.

Churches advertise their services in the newspapers and mention that Sunday school is held at 9:30. But few Sunday schools take advantage of the newspaper in advertising what's going on in the Sunday school.

Of course, a Sunday school has to have something going on before it can get publicity. A Sunday school which is increasing its attendance regularly must be a good place to go. Sunday school class members who arrange some class activities to accommodate a crippled member must practice what they learn in Sunday school. These are things that people like to know about. And they are some of the reasons a family might choose to come to your Sunday school—if they know about them.

A Sunday school contest stirs up a great deal of interest, and newspapers are glad to get the story—if they can get information in advance. It's a good idea to check with your local religious news editor and find out when is the deadline for getting news stories into the paper.

Every church bulletin should carry announcements regarding the Sunday school and news of events. And alert pastors will make verbal announcements about the Sunday school too.

Monthly Sunday school news sheets are popular with all ages. They keep every member informed on all Sunday school events from the Junior class party to a record attendance in the Men's Bible Class.

Posters in nearby stores and signs at nearest intersections or on highways may also publicize your Sunday school. Handbills, doorknob hangers, or blotters may be given out in the church neighborhood announcing a contest or other features in the Sunday school.

House-to-house visitation with invitations to Sunday school is another means of publicizing the school. Letters or postcards to all prospective members remind them that they are welcome at Sunday school.

A welcome letter or a visit to the home of all newcomers in the community is an excellent way to get new members. Public utility companies are usually willing to give names and addresses of those moving into the area.

Brief paid announcements on the radio often reach new people too.

Take a good look around you, and you'll find many easy ways to publicize your Sunday school which will be effective in getting new members. Try some new ideas. **But don't neglect the obvious ways of reaching your community with news of your Sunday school.**—(from "Teaching Tips")

NEALIS-WILSON. On the evening of December 18, 1955 at 7:00 o'clock, Miss Marilyn Lavada Nealis became the bride of Earl Marshall Wilson in a beautifully arranged wedding in the First Brethren Church, Cumberland, Maryland, of which the bride is a member. They will make their home at Willard, Ohio, where Mr. Wilson has a position with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The double-ring service was performed by the undersigned, minister of the congregation.

L. O. McCartneysmith.

BOONE-MORRIS. On the evening of July 7th, 1956, at 7:00 o'clock, in the appropriately decorated auditorium of the First Brethren Church, Cumberland, Maryland, Miss Norita Lou Boone and Forest Lee Morris, Jr., were united in marriage. The double ring service was performed by their minister, the undersigned, in the presence of a great number of friends and relatives. Both are members of the First Brethren Church. The bride will continue her secretarial position with The Allegheny Instrument Company here, and the groom is in the U. S. Marine Corps located at Quantico, Virginia.

L. O. McCartneysmith.

The Ambassadors Speak --

Marlin McCann:

HERE WE ARE at the end of just about six weeks of traveling. We have had a wonderful time working together and I have enjoyed every minute of it. Chuck and I tried to do a little water skiing the other day in our spare time. Chuck did fine, but I was in the water most of the time. However, I may be able to ski some day.

Traveling as an Ambassador gives us an opportunity to meet a good share of our Brethren people in many of our Brethren churches. In the churches we have visited this summer our program was very well received. Not only was our program for this year well received but the future plans for our European tour next summer was well received also. I believe that the Brethren people are getting a new vision. They are realizing the need for world peace and they are doing something about it. It is good to know that the Brethren church as a whole is backing this project. Please continue in your support and especially your prayers.

Chuck Huff:

THE TRIP is fast drawing to a close—Just one more service. It seems like a long time since we had that first program in Brush Valley, yet it is vividly impressed upon my memory.

One of the real joys in such a tour is meeting all the wonderful Brethren people. Making new friends gives you a real personal remembrance of the various churches. Of course I'll always remember swimming in the ocean again at Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Then, while we were in Elkhart, the Ray Yoders took Ray, Marlin and me for a wonderful boat ride on the St. Joe River. Much to my delight they gave us an opportunity to try water-skiing for the first time. It's great.

What impresses me most, however, is the interest the Brethren people have shown and their willingness to have a part in the project before us. I think the people of our church are gaining a new vision in this matter of world peace. We, as Ambassadors, pray that this program may grow and let the world know that we're not only registered as a "Peace Church" in Washington, D. C., but actively working for the peace we desire.

Rolf Stolpner:

AT THE END of our Ambassador trip this summer, I feel that the call for a new spirit of cooperation in the work of Brethren Youth, the mission projects of the Brethren Church, and the church college at Ashland has found responding hearts and minds within the different congregations. We are also very encouraged in our mission project for 1957 when the quartet and I will go to Europe in the name of Christ. I was especially impressed by the many personal comments which were in favor of the plans of the quartet for next year to go on a peace mission.

In order to serve to the best of our ability, we nee support and the prayers of many Christian people. I would like to use this opportunity to thank all my Christian friends who have already helped us to spread th love of God, and to join in the work for peace as it come only through Christ and our efforts in following Hi Who is the Prince of Peace.

Ray Aspinall:

THE TIME has come to get back to the books. Afte seeing a new place every day it is going to be hard t settle down to a classroom.

We have had a lot of fun these past weeks travelin through the East and Mid-West. It was a wonderful ex perience meeting so many Brethren, visiting in thei homes, and eating all their food. The greatest thrill, how ever, was in preaching the message of peace to these peo ple. My prayer is that they will not forget the picture showing the need throughout the world, or the tesimon telling of the universal desire for peace. Please remem ber that although we are back in school once more th work we have begun is not near completion. Pray fo us. Pray for the work being done in Germany. Pray fo peace.

Phil Lersch:

ASHLAND BEAT MANCHESTER, but it wasn't easy We had to fight back after being behind during the firs half by a score of 20 to 0. It was really a thrill to watc our school team push over their fourth touchdown whic put them ahead to stay—going on to win 27 to 20. Thi thrill is doubled when your brother is playing on the wi ning team.

But this football game was just one kind of inspira tion which we experienced while traveling these pas weeks. A more serious and lasting uplift comes fro worshipping God and meeting Christian people throug out the Brethren Church. When a man or woman, wh cannot go out into the world himself, grips your han at the church door and says, "Keep up the good worl boys. We need more who are willing to serve as yo are. You have our continued prayers," it makes you rea ize that when there is work to be done, it will be. Man folks gave more than the "casual" fifty cents or one do lar and we thank them for it.

It's back to school and work for all of us now. But ou sincere thanks goes out to all of you who have given e couragement and backing for our mission to Europe ne summer. We will continue to practice hard during t winter and learn more German so that our work will as profitable for the glory of God as we can make Pray on.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

EVERY CHRISTIAN A MISSIONARY

SEPARATE ME Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. Acts 13:2. Almost the first thing that the church in Antioch did, after it got started, was to send out missionaries. It was itself, so to speak, a missionary church. It had just been organized. Yet its first task was not just to improve itself, but to go out and share. As a matter of fact, this is the only way a church can improve itself. One of the exciting things in our day is to find what we think of as mission stations sending out missionaries themselves. This is happening in Africa; it is happening in India. We think of those people as poor and wonder how they can find enough money to send it to others. But the church in Antioch was not rich. It sent out missionaries not because it had money but because it had a mission. This the church always has.

Are you a missionary? You don't have to be sent by a mission board. You are sent of God. Every Christian is a missionary.

Mrs. Bruce C. Shanholtz,
Linwood, Md.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

WABASH, INDIANA, COLLEGE CORNER BRETHREN. Brother G. Bright Hanna, on the morning of September 2nd, conducted an 8:45 o'clock service at the Slocum Park for the Saddle Club.

We note that the Hannas are beginning their fourth year of work with the College Corner Brethren.

COMING EVENTS

WARSAW, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**October 8-21**—Rev. Woodrow B. Brant, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Holsinger, Pastor.

NEWARK, OHIO. Rally Day—**September 30th**—W. S. Crick, Pastor.

BURLINGTON, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**Beginning September 23rd**—Rev. Arthur H. Tinkel, Evangelist; Joe Thomas, formerly with Cadle Tabernacle Radio Quartet, Song Leader; Rev. Floyd Sibert, Pastor.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Annual Homecoming—**October 14**—Morning, afternoon and evening services. Guest speakers: Rev. Ernest Baker, Pastor Bark Hill Church of God, and the Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin, Governor of the state of Maryland; Rev. Bruce C. Shanholtz, pastor.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO, GRETNA BRETHREN. Homecoming—**October 14th**—Rev. James E. Ault, former pastor, guest speaker; Rev. George W. Solomon, pastor.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND. Fall Evangelistic Campaign—**beginning October 7th**—Rev. D. C. White, Evangelist; Rev. L. O. McCartneysmith, Pastor.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Revival Meeting—**October 8-21**—Rev. Percy C. Miller, Evangelist; Rev. J. D. Hamel, Pastor.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Rally Day—**October 7th**—Goal: 207; Rev. A. T. Ronk, Pastor.

PLEASANT, HILL, OHIO. Rally Day, Promotion Day—**September 30th**—Rev. William H. Anderson, Pastor.

WILLIAMSTOWN, OHIO. Homecoming—**October 7th**—morning and afternoon services. Basket dinner at noon. Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith, speaker; Rev. W. S. Benshoff, Pastor.

TIOSA, INDIANA. Annual Homecoming and Rally Day—**October 7th**—Basket Dinner at noon; Dr. Glenn L. Clayton, afternoon speaker; Rev. Wayne Swihart, Pastor.

ARDMORE, INDIANA. Homecoming and Rally Day—**October 7th**—Rev. J. Edgar Berkshire, afternoon speaker; Rev. A. J. Tinkel, pastor.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
LAYMEN'S RALLY
October 6, 1956
Hagerstown Brethren Church
Time—5:00 P. M. E. S. T.
I. B. LITTON.

Ashland College Homecoming
October 20, 1956

NORTHEASTERN OHIO
BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY
North Georgetown Brethren Church
September 30th
Registration—2:30 E. S. T.
Supper: 85c
Guest Speaker at afternoon service,
Rev. Charles Munson

Evening program by the North Georgetown Brethren Youth. Will include a play, "Christian Vocations." The "Lord's Prayer," will be given in candlelight.

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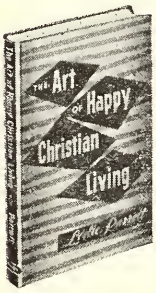

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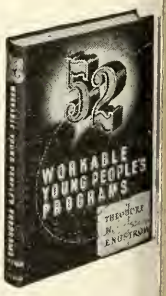

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

HOLY BIBLE

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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AND COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL DAY OFFERING ISSUE

Theme: YOUTH ARE IMPORTANT, TOO

VOL. LXXVIII October 6, 1956 No. 39

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz notes that for their Rally Day on September 30th they had set the goal of 75 in attendance.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. We note that at a recent business meeting, Brother Guy Ludwig, who has served the Mathias, W. Va., church, has been given an unanimous two year call to serve the Pittsburgh Church.

Brother Ralph E. Mills, who has been serving the Pittsburgh church, will begin his work with the Berlin church on October 1st.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. We note that in preparation for the September 30th Rally Day, eight visitation teams conducted a visitation program designed to interest the members and others in attendance at the services.

October 14th will feature Community Night, when folks from the community will be urged to meet with the Wayne Heights Brethren. Brother N. V. Leatherman comments that "Already a nice response is being made in preparation by members of the community."

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. "Open House" at the parsonage was held on September 23rd.

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. The W. M. S. will present their public service Sunday morning, October 14th. Mrs. Russell Rodkey, National W. M. S. President, will be the speaker.

A reception for new members received during the past year, was a scheduled event of October 3rd.

GRATIS, OHIO. The Gratis church will be host to the Miami Valley Laymen's Meeting the evening of October 15th.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Brother Robert Keplinger has announced that Trinity Brethren is entering the Christian Life Sunday School Contest. This contest, which runs from October 14th through November 18th, is open to churches of all denominations. The Trinity Bulletin lists a complete set of committees which will be working before and during the contest at Trinity Brethren. Theme of the Contest is: "Each one bring one."

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. William Curtis, Seminary student from New Lebanon, was the speaker in the New Lebanon church on September 30th.

ARDMORE, INDIANA. The W. M. S. Public Servic was held on September 30th, with Miss Olga Brown, re turned missionary from Urundi, Africa, as the gues speaker.

WARSAW, INDIANA. The "Wings of the Morning radio gospel quartet, presented a musical program in th Warsaw church recently.

CERRO GORDO, ILLINOIS. Brother Kenneth C. Moc writes: "Effective October 1st, we are closing our pas torate here and have accepted a call to the Pleasar View Brethren Church (Vandergrift, Penna.), and wi arrive there the week of the 1st to preach the first sermo on October 7th."

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILL. Brother H. H. Rowsey is ask ing the entire congregation to serve on the Attendanc Committee during the coming year. Each member is aske to serve for one month, their birth-month. Even th shut-ins and non-resident members are asked to serv on the committee by praying for the success of the at tendance movement with special prayers during thei birth-month.

Brother Richard Allison, ministerial student at Ashlan College, was guest speaker in his home church at Mi ledgeville September 2.

COMING EVENTS

WARSAW, INDIANA. Annual Homecoming—**Octobe 7th**—Services: 9:30, 10:30, 2.00. Carry-In Dinner at Noo Dr. L. E. Lindower, Guest Speaker; Rev. Robert Ho singer, Pastor.

FLORA, INDIANA. Homecoming—**October 14th**—Re C. A. Stewart, Pastor.

ARDMORE, INDIANA. Homecoming and Rally Day—**October 7th**—Rev. J. Edgar Berkshire, afternoon speak er; Rev. A. J. Tinkel, pastor.

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(Continued on Page 19)

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

A. C. --- 1956

THE EDUCATIONAL POLICIES of today determine the future of the individual, the home, the church, the community and the nation.

That's why our forefathers were concerned about the establishment of schools and churches for the education of the rising generation. That's why school curriculums were often saturated with moral precepts from the Bible. Men of that day wanted to make certain that coming generations of Americans would be instructed in those social, moral and religious teachings which would guarantee for them a long and prosperous life in this wonderful land for which so many made great sacrifices and for which many laid down their lives.

That's why in this modern day, when the Godly teaching so preciously fostered by our early pioneers having been denied expression in our public schools, we need institutions of higher learning which will foster and teach the Christian standards of living. Out of our Christian colleges must needs come those who will, in life and deed, express and practice the principles of Christian ethics, good government, and the witness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those who have been denied the teaching thereof.

Ashland College, in this field of endeavor, holds a very high place to us, because it is the one institution of Christian higher learning of the Brethren Church.

Our early church fathers, having made certain of Ashland College as a Brethren institution, paid highly and dearly to make their dream a reality. At much personal and financial sacrifice our early leaders literally out of their own pockets "bought" the school when it looked as if the school would be lost to the Church. The passing years have likewise brought its periods of crisis and danger. All of these have been weathered, and our thanks rise to our heavenly Father, for His beneficence toward us, and to all Brethren and friends who have risen to the needs of the passing years.

More than the buildings, and they are excellent; more than the Administration, the Faculty, and we can be proud of them; more than the students, full of promise; yes, more than all of these, is the fact that Ashland College and Seminary is the personification and the reality of that concept of Christian higher education which is basically essential in the training of youth for the responsibilities of Christian living today and tomorrow.

Even more important is the fact that Ashland College and Seminary is the Brethren Institution of higher Christian learning. Here Brethren young people can come; here they can be trained for positions in our churches and communities—for our pulpits, for our mission fields, for teaching positions in our schools. Here also can be trained our young people for places of leadership in business and government. There is really no limit to the outreach and influence of a Christian young person with a college education. The Administration of our college recognizes this and has accepted the challenge and the responsibility.

No Church College can exist as such apart from the loyal and continued support by the people of the Church. We need to send our young people to Ashland for their college education. We need also to liberally support our college and seminary with our gifts.

At this Educational Day offering time, the Brethren Church has opportunity to speak and give in support of Christian Education at Ashland. To remain negative is to break faith with those who have preceded us; and which is worse, to break faith with those who will come after us —our young people. Let us, through our gifts, give a positive answer to the needs of our college and seminary at Ashland. W. S. B.

Youth ARE Important at Ashland College

DR. GLENN L. CLAYTON, President,
Ashland College and Seminary

AS I WRITE THESE WORDS, the halls of Ashland College are once again alive with students. The seventy-eighth year of service to the Brethren Church and the community has begun. There are 533 young people enrolled in the day classes and about 300 in evening and extension courses. All are full of purpose and hope, all are expectant of a good year of competent, Christian-based training.

They have a right to be so. They are young people. They will soon be called to leadership in church and community as ministers, missionaries, teachers, business men, professional men, housewives, or any one of hundreds of specialized vocations. Tomorrow, we shall look to them to carry on in our place. Youth are important.

The Brethren Church has many needs, all worth our consideration. Our church is young itself, with ever-widening horizons of church extension, home and foreign missions, local church work, and evangelization. All this must be supported generously.

Yet, when the whole story is told, the effectiveness of the program will depend upon dedicated, capable leadership, thoroughly grounded in Brethren doctrine and called to Brethren service. Furthermore, that leadership must be trained professionally for the job to be done. Regardless of its sincerity, that leadership will fail unless equipped with the very best college training available. Whatever program the church may have, that program is doomed to failure without trained leadership. Youth are important, too!

To this end, the serving of the Brethren Church through the fully accredited training of church young people, Ashland College was founded and to this end the college operates today.

Because young people are so important the college is pushing ahead on a five-fold development program to make possible the greatest service to youth. In summary, the program proposes to strengthen the college:

1. through the securing of a group of 750 selected students who can best profit from such training,
2. through the development of the best possible relations between church and college and the further extension of the work of the Ashland Theological Seminary,
3. through the colorful planning of courses offered to insure the highest possible scholastic standards as compared to work offered by other similar colleges,
4. through the construction of additional dormitory space for women, a new science building, and additional library space to meet the needs of a modern college, and
5. through the provision of reserve funds for endowments, scholarships, and building operations to secure the college in less prosperous times to come.

The record of service and achievement to date has been good. What is done in the future depends upon those who believe in the church and college enough to care for that future. The cost will be heavy, the competition keen, and the problems many. At the same time, the rewards in young lives will continue to be great.

The General Conference of the Brethren Churches has agreed that youth are important, too. To give the church an opportunity to pay the cost of training Brethren students in the college and the seminary, the conference has designated October as Education Month, when all loyal Brethren will be asked to give to this important project.

Ashland College and Seminary are training these young people for the great tasks before them. They are receiving accredited college training, recognized among colleges for its excellence and completeness. They will soon be ready to work in the churches and community and they will do a commendable job.

Of course, the program is costly. Most worthwhile things are. Well-trained faculty, good equipment and fine libraries cost money but are indispensable to the young person who really cares about his future.

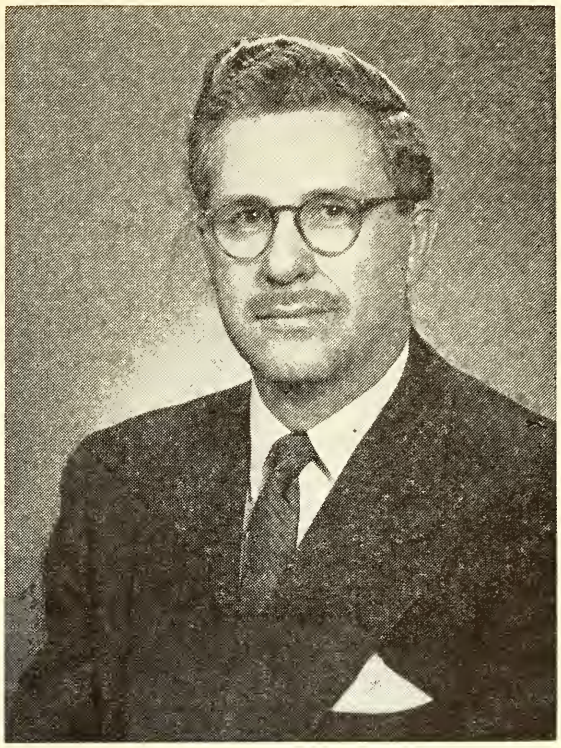
The ordinary income of the college is not adequate to pay the heavy cost. Student tuition and fees and endowment income do cover most of it, but there is a balance which must be raised through gifts of interested persons who believe in the importance of youth as we do.

Again this year we are glad to welcome to our campus a fine group of young people who belong to other faiths. Their presence makes the campus a place where true learning can take place. Our people learn to respect the views and opinions of others and are challenged and strengthened in their own beliefs. At the same time the Brethren Church has the privilege of playing host to a large group of non-Brethren young people who would otherwise have no contact with the church. This influence among the leadership of the nation and state is a tremendous factor in the national service of the Brethren Church and should be viewed with justifiable pride as a service well-rendered.

The cost of this non-Brethren group will be borne by contributions from alumni and friends outside the church. In 1955-57 that actual cost above tuition, fees, and endowment will amount to $175 per student.

Now, just as our friends are asked to pay their own way, I am sure the church expects to do the same. This is especially true of the church because the benefits reaped by the church from Brethren students are so much more direct.

The need, then, for the Educational Day offering this year is the raising of enough money to pay the additional cost of Brethren students in the college and enough money beyond that to cover salaries, refunds, library, and incidental costs of the Ashland Theological Seminary. That figure for the college is $12,250, and for the Seminary, $27,300. The total offering, therefore must equal $39,550 if the Brethren Church is to provide for the costs of its own youths.



DR. GLENN L. CLAYTON

This seventy-eighth year will be a significant one in the lives of the young people in training on the Ashland College campus. Whether we agree or not, it will also be significant in the history of the Brethren Church. The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. If they are trained to know and respect the Brethren Church and if their college training is related to the church, then as they grow older they will be apt to continue to serve and love that church. The young people on the Ashland College campus this year will have that advantage. The investment of $39,550 in them will be well-spent as an investment in the future.

The need is so apparent and the promise of harvest so great that I am sure Brethren people everywhere will respond generously and enthusiastically.

Youth are as Important as Tomorrow

EACH GENERATION since time began has recognized the truth of the statement that the world of tomorrow depends upon the youth of today. And indeed **our** world of tomorrow depends upon **our** young people of today. These young people who are now coming into physical and emotional maturity will shortly be taking their places in adult life.

The statement that "only God knows the fullest potential of a human being" is also very true. Who but the Master Teacher would have discerned the possibilities that lay dormant within Peter, the fisherman? Who of you understands the possibilities that lie within your own son or daughter?

This, then, is the challenge of education, or more particularly of Christian education. We must ever strive to equip our young people to take their places in the world of tomorrow. We must ever seek to develop and put to use any latent talents or abilities that the Creator has given them.

Thus, the challenge of Christian education is one that is difficult to fully comprehend. Young people who enter college are seeking wider experiences and advanced learning. For this, they are bringing minds which can be molded—which are as yet pliable. It is possible to develop thought processes, and to alter, and in some cases, create patterns for making decisions. It is entirely possible to build attitudes that will last a life time and to shape character. Certainly, a college avowedly Christian with a Christian heritage and message is best fitted to do all of this.

REV. VIRGIL E. MEYER

Director of Church Relations, Ashland College

Also, young people who enter college are preparing themselves for specific vocations. Again training in a church-related college is invaluable. Who can estimate the difference between the influence exerted by a dedicated Christian teacher and one who is an unbeliever? Surely there is a difference between the Christian doctor who looks to God for guidance and one who trusts only himself. We all believe there is a difference in dealing with a Christian business man and one who makes no profession.

The Brethren Church is highly privileged to be able through its maintenance of a Christian college to make this difference in the leaders of tomorrow and thus in the world of tomorrow.

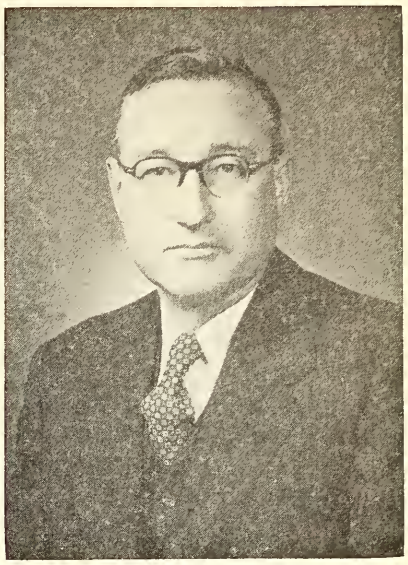
For example, some of the young men who come to college this fall will be studying to enter the ministry. Let us say that a young man who becomes a minister will lead at least ten people to the Lord each year. In a ministry of forty years duration he would lead four hundred people to Christ. Surely, the fact that we maintain a Christian college and seminary would make a "difference" in the lives of these people.

Our Brethren college is proving to be a blessing to people of other denominations. Many students from near-by localities are attracted to Ashland because of its Christian teaching and atmosphere. I recently talked to a father and mother who were bringing their daughter to Ashland to enter her second year of college. They expressed their deep appreciation for the opportunity to send her to a Christian college. It most surely made a "difference" to them.

In these days when there is a world struggle for possession of the minds of men, it is so very important to have Christian training. If America is to remain Christian rather than to become communist, we must train Christian leadership.

The training of youth today for Christian leadership and for the salvation of men **is** as important as tomorrow. Surely the Brethren Church will welcome whole-heartedly the opportunity to support its own college and seminary.

Youth are Important to the Brethren Church



REV. DELBERT B. FLORA, Dean,
Ashland Theological Seminary

F THE BRETHREN CHURCH desires ministers and lay workers, she must call and train young eople for her needs. Just as the world moves orward on the feet of little children, so the rethren Church can grow and expand locally and way from home as she develops leadership mong her youth.

The Brethren Church has young people who ave declared their intention of serving Christ nd the church in special capacities. In the 1955 eason of Brethren Summer Camps, 131 dedicated hemselves as life work recruits. In the summer f 1956, 122 Intermediates and Seniors dedicated hemselves also, but few Juniors in this list.

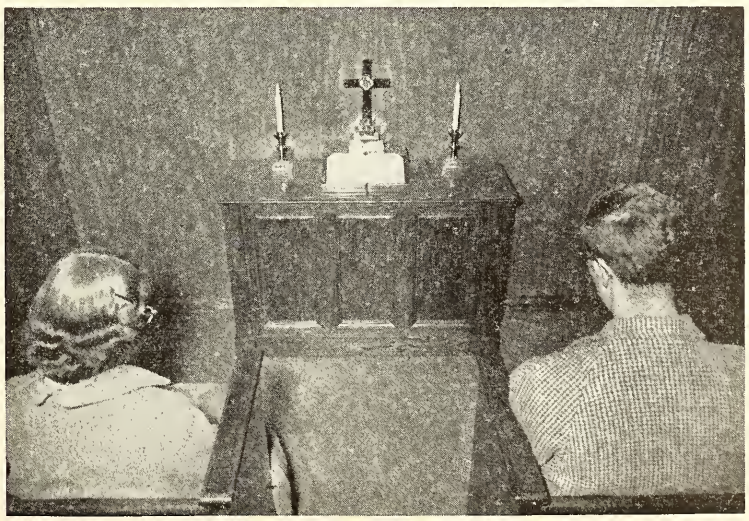
In Ashland College this semester there are t least 30 more Brethren who belong to the roup of life work recruits. Then we may add to hat number 20 more Brethren who are studying the Seminary. Look at that total: 300 and bove.

That is a most impressive figure! Surely there will be enough workers for the Brethren Church in that group. Yes, **but** many of our prospects gain the idea that they are not considered important to the Brethren Church, and so drift away. **Where** could they get **such** a mistaken idea?

Can it be that we have not set the call of the church before them in all of its challenge and opportunity?

Perhaps we have not given them the impression that we recognize Ashland College and Ashland Theological Seminary as the proper place for training.

Let us show them that we are for them and the Brethren institution of higher training!



Prayer Chapel in the Memorial Chapel

Youth are Important, too, to Our Community

BEN F. ZERCHER, Vice-President, Ashland College Board of Trustees

YES, THE MOST IMPORTANT of all of us, because they are the ones who can and will adjust themselves to changing times—rapidly changing social, economic and educational standards of living. Many of us who are older will find the necessary adjustments much more difficult.

For a number of years it has been my privilege to observe the progress of many of the local graduates of Ashland College. I think of some who are now in industry, filling important positions, some in the medical profession, still others in the legal profession, and of course, many in other and miscellaneous positions of importance.

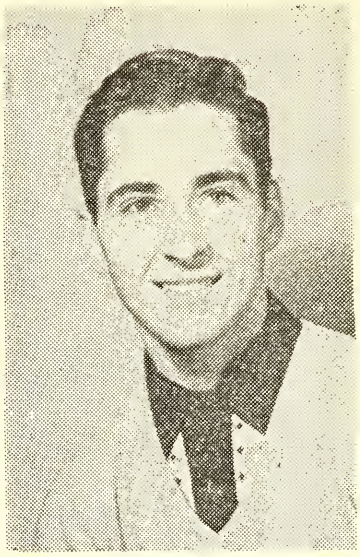
Not the least in number and importance have been the students trained for the Ministry in Ashland College Seminary. Some are serving churches in the local area and many are members of the faculty of Ashland College. This group presents a great force for good in the community.

Ashland College, a Christian college, will, during the years just ahead, have the opportunity of extending its influence for good in the community, because of the large increase in student body and the resultant increase in the number of graduates annually. Surely in Ashland College our community has a great asset. So many of our young people can get a Christian education within its doors—and since "Youth are important too" they will continue to show their appreciation of Ashland College by their influence and leadership in the community.

A Seminary Class in session

"YOUTH are IMPORTANT, too" ---

Charles Huff



YOUTH! Potentially the most valuable asset of our United States today. Youth! Filled with zeal, drive, imagination, determination and courage. Youth! Ready to be molded and shaped into vessels—priceless and useful. Youth! Needing your help, your encouragement, your understanding.

Today our public schools are breaking at the seams, our colleges and universities are growing by leaps and bounds. The young people are eagerly looking to our schools and institutions of higher learning for guidance, training and education. They realize that only by improving themselves can they hope to improve the world in which they live. Young people thirst for truth, they long for it.

Each year the small church related college is discovering that its responsibility is growing even faster than its enrollment. Industry, business and the professions, too, are realizing that the church related college is tops for training young people for any field. In recent years industry alone has given thousands of dollars to such institutions knowing that these same institutions will be training the chemists, machinists, secretaries and executives for their growing concerns.

Why this interest in the well being of the church related college? Because it is generally small, the student is not merely a number, one among thousands. He is part of a family that is growing and developing together. And most important of all is that this growth and development is nourished by Christian influence and background.

Brethren, it's time that we woke up to the fact Ashland College is just such a college. It was founded by our early Brethren so that it might serve the Brethren Church by providing Christian education for the youth of the Church. The appalling fact is that the Church as a whole has been indifferent to the college and the principles upon which it is serving.

Your investment in Ashland College is an investment in the future of the Brethren Church and of your communities. Have you encouraged your child to consider Ashland College for his training? Have you prayed for the College? Have you supported it financially? The youth of the nation are ready to be molded and shaped into vessels—priceless and useful. Ashland College is ready to do its part with your help. Give because you have a concern—YOUTH.

Support Ashland College and Seminary

with your liberal giving this month.

What Is Man ?

Rev. R. K. Higgins

IN THE PASSING HOURS of late summer, man is prone to think seriously of his existence and his destiny. The Psalmist in the 144th Psalm, has written these words, "O Lord, what is man that thou dost regard him, or the Son of Man that thou dost think of Him?" Man is like a breath, his days are like a passing shadow." These words have always encouraged deep thinking in the minds of all who read. And it is good for intelligent people to stop once in a while, amidst the turmoil of life, and to think seriously on this question.

A little boy, after one week at school said to his mother, "Now that I have learned so much this week, when will the things I know be more than the things I don't know?" Most of us can remember when we too were quite impressed with the extent of our knowledge. Children coming home from college are often horrified by the old fashioned habits of Mother and Dad, and the limitations of their understanding, but we soon find that the more education one receives, the more vast becomes the extent of that which we do not know. Even though we should live a thousand years, finally it becomes apparent that the things we do not know will always overshadow the things we do know, and that there is no place for pride in the heart of man.

I like to picture the Psalmist lying out on the hillside, beneath the warm summer sun, watching the clouds drift lazily by—as he wrote these words. For they are very much to the point—when we think of God who creates the universe, then man seems very insignificant. He is indeed a passing shadow, or a mere breath in the space of eternity, and one of the most profound mysteries of Life, is that God should be concerned at all with such a creature. Whatever the reason may be, that God does care, is certainly not within the extent of our knowledge.

(A radio sermon on "The Brethren Voice," Station WRTC, Elkhart, Indiana.)

In the light of these words of the Psalmist, our humanistic pride is soon humbled. Generations, like children starting to school, are often overly impressed with their cleverness and wisdom. We are not the first generation to be jarred awake by these words—for man is prone to entertain romantic thoughts of his own adequacy and ability to control his destiny. Isn't it strange that every forward step simply reveals a greater field of mystery? Life is truly a school, and only the beginner dares believe that man can ever explore thoroughly the mysteries of his existence.

I think our failure so often is due to a misunderstanding of the main issues. What we can learn and manipulate are not always the essential things. The world of nature reveals its secrets to inquisitive men, but those secrets have to do with the Outer World, and really friends, it is the Inner World that matters most. All of us have come to see, after two world wars in one generation—that it is in the field of human relations that man will rise or fall. Now it is true that we are able to learn a great deal about human relations, but when it comes to solving the problems we are able to so clearly analyze, we must become different kinds of persons. All of our knowledge does not help us here—for becoming what we know we ought to be is still beyond us.

All of us must recognize that this problem of being transformed is the essential mystery of our life. It is the spiritual problem and the final aim of religion. How shall we become the kind of persons who can live in our world without destroying our world and ourselves? The beginning of all wisdom is to see this as the vital issue concerning human existence. We shall never know as much as we do not know! In God's infinite wisdom, the balance must always be against us, but we can know enough to build a good and decent society—if we learn how to become the right kind of persons. We will be a fair distance along

the way, if we come to understand and recognize this.

We must constantly ask God for this wisdom —it is essential to life. It is the Good News of the Gospel—that this is precisely what He did in Jesus Christ. This IS the wisdom of God which so often seems foolish to the minds of men. For there are so many things we cannot know, but we can know Christ Jesus, and that is all the wisdom or knowledge we need to live by, in the midst of all mystery.

It was Paul the great apostle who probably understood this truth better than anyone else, and he wrote near the close of his life, despite his own physical infirmities and mental inadequacy —"I can do all things in Him who strengthens me." Paul understood that though he now must look through a glass darkly, that there were many mysteries which he could never understand —All that was necessary was faith in his Lord Christ Jesus, and strength for every need was his. Few of us are able to realize how much this strengthening of Christ would mean to us individually, and we go along battling the problems and difficulties of life in our own wisdom. What wonder we fail to meet life acceptably so often.

If we would come to know this strengthening of Christ, I am sure that man would be enabled to deal with temptation in a much finer way than heretofore. Someone has said that a Christian who cannot handle temptation is like a motorcar without a motor—he may go forward by being pushed or towed, but he never generates any power of his own. Now being a Christian doesn't mean that we escape temptation either—or that we live in such a rarefied spiritual atmosphere

that temptations are never real. Actually to be a Christian, increases the temptations that come to men.

For temptation is the inevitable outcome of a mission in Life—the greater the mission, the greater the temptation. It is a testing, a selection by suffering, in the light of your faith by which your mission is accomplished. The record of our Lord's temptation follows closely upon His baptism. Straightway after Jesus accepted His mission, He was thrown into the wilderness of doubt, uncertainty, and indecision, as to the best means of realizing His divine commission. You remember the story of how the Tempter offered Him the easier, more obvious, but eventually suicidal methods of accomplishing His purpose.

First, Satan wanted Jesus to turn stones into bread. What greater temptations have we Americans today than to think that if we feed men they will follow us. Jesus considered this method. The temptation was very real. Only by trusting in the wisdom of God was Jesus able to escape, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth forth from the Mouth of God." Later on He said, "I am the Bread of Life, he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

Then Satan wanted to destroy our Lord's Mission by tempting Him to put on a public demonstration of His Divine Powers, saying, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from this pinnacle in the temple" . . . But Jesus said, "Ye shall not tempt the Lord thy God." No wonder so many are lost in the striving for public acclaim, and popularity—for man is prone to seek it in his own wisdom.

Finally the Devil took Jesus to a high mountain and showed Him the Kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them, saying, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and Worship Me." In other words, forget all about your mission—here is a short cut to glory. Just substitute me for God," said the Devil. But Jesus answered, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve." The lessons contained within the temptation experiences of our Lord should be very vivid to all of us, when we consider. "Just what is Man, O Lord, that thou art mindful of him?"

It was Paul again who said one day, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel; for it is the Power of

God unto Salvation, to every one who has Faith." A Missionary Superintendent visited the far Eastern Field one day and listened to the Missionaries story of glowing success among the native people there. Looking out of the carriage he saw an aged outcast woman, working knee deep in the mud of a Rice Paddy, underneath a scorching sun. Sarcastically he said, "What can a woman like that understand about Christ or Christianity?" The Missionary replied quickly, "She knows that Christ is stronger than all the Demons in her life before she met Him."

You see, we may not be able to explain all the mysteries of Life—to understand all the glories of Christ and Salvation. Just knowing that God is mindful of us, and cared enough to send His Son into the World seeking after us—should be enough to give purpose and Mission to all of Life. All men seemingly spend their lives seeking Salvation; what a pity that so many seek it in their work, their ambitions, their pleasures. Man is so created that he must find something outside himself which gives life meaning. We must find an answer to the frustrations, the sufferings, the disappointments of life. Our life is a constant seeking after that which would bring Peace and Dignity, and satisfaction to our innermost being. Why is it so difficult for man to understand that we are God's creation—created in His image? We have been bought with the price of the blood of His only Son, and that we can become His Sons through that Redeeming sacrifice on Calvary's Cross. Why not seek to become that which God has planned for you? It cannot fail to be above and beyond your own possibilities or dream for yourself. God is mindful of even you.

Elkhart, Indiana.

POSSIBLE CAMP SITE FOR OHIO BRETHREN ??

THE BRETHREN of the Ohio District have been giving consideration to the possibility of securing their own Camp Site for their young peoples' camp. Las July, with a certain property in mind at Springfield

Ohio, the Camp Site Committee and the Conference Board of Trustees were asked to look it over, and if deemed advisable, to take an option on it so that Conference, in 1957, might take final action on the matter.

After looking over the Springfield property, the Camp Site Committee and the Conference Board of Trustees decided against it.

Since that time, another possibility has developed in the form of a farm located about seven miles from Loudonville. This farm consists of 82 acres on which there is a barn about 30x60 feet, a seven room house, double garage and an implement shed about the same size as the garage. It is a beautiful setting for a camp. There are springs on the farm to feed a lake or pool for swimming. The accompanying picture shows the general lay of the land, and some of its scenic beauty and attraction. The price is $9,000 to $10,000.

Representatives of the Camp Site Committee, the Conference Board of Trustees, and the Conference Executive Committee, looked over the property recently, and they agreed that it is a desirable site for a camp.

The difficulty faced in the securing of a farm such as this is that the property owner does not want to wait a year before the final decision is made on the matter. The Conference Board of Trustees do not feel that they can proceed until they have the consent of Conference. The Trustees, as well as the Camp Site Committee feel that this matter could not be given final action by the delegates at Conference as they (delegates) would not want to act until they could present this matter to the local church. Thus, this appeal is being made directly to the local churches, asking them to take a general poll to see if the Brethren in Ohio want a camp site of their own, and if they will financially back it.

This farm is located so that about 30 acres which lie across the road (not in the pictured area) could be sold to an adjoining farmer, in the event that the entire 82 acres is not desired. If this were done, it would mean that the actual investment would be approximately $7,000 to $8,000, depending on the purchase price. It is estimated that another $10,000 to $12,000 would be required to develop the farm into a camp site suitable for the desired purposes. The development could span a possible five year period.

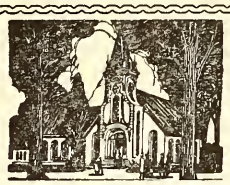
A total figure of around $20,000 is thus arrived at, which could be raised over a five-year period. There are 20 churches in the Ohio District to help on this project. It would mean an average of $200.00 per year for five years from each of the 20 churches. This is considered a very reasonable investment for the accomplishment of so worthy a goal.

The matter rests now in the hands of the local Churches and Sunday Schools. A frank response from each Church and Sunday School is desired by the Committee. It is suggested that this matter be presented to the Official Board and/or the Sunday School of each Ohio District Church, with a reply being sent to the Committee within the next few weeks.

The Ohio District Brethren have a wonderful opportunity to develop their own, permanent camp site; this site is very desirable, and, if a camp site is really desired by the Ohio Brethren, response should be positive, and soon.

This activity on the part of the Camp Site Committee at this time is necessitated by the fact that from time to time there is difficulty in renting a suitable camp for the summer camping program. It is doubtful if Camp Zion will be available to the Ohio Brethren next year due to an expansion of their own program.

The Ohio District Camp Site Committee asks Ohio Brethren Churches to send their reply to: **Rev. Robert L. Hoffman, Chairman, Ohio District Brethren Camp Site Committee, Smithville, Ohio,** within the next 30 days.



News From Our Churches

NORTH GEORGETOWN, OHIO

A Revival Meeting was held at the North Georgetown Brethren Church from September 9th to 16th, inclusive. The Evangelist was Rev. William Anderson of the Pleasant Hill, Ohio, Brethren Church.

Attendance at the services was good, with delegations attending from other Churches. These delegations also presented special music. Visiting churches were the Lutheran Church of North Georgetown, the Brethren Churches of Louisville and Canton. James Brantingham of Winona presented two numbers on Thursday evening, and the Hoffman family sang on Friday evening. Nancy Albright and Dorothy Mohr sang a number Saturday evening for Youth Night.

After Rev. Anderson's challenge to youth, the young people of the Church held a beautiful candlelight service. Everyone joined in rededicating their lives for the Lord at the close of the service. The meetings ended Sunday with a basket dinner, with everyone enjoying the good food and fellowship. The result of the meeting was that one teen age girl accepted Christ as her Savior. Many other results were indicated which cannot be given in numbers.

Everyone truly felt the presence of the Holy Spirit and were inspired and challenged to live a better life for Christ.

Rev. Rowser, our Pastor, and Rev. Anderson, spent the week in visitation, with 42 calls being made in the homes of this community. Our prayers and good wishes go with Rev. Anderson as he continues his ministry for the Lord at Pleasant Hill.

Alice Heironimus, Secretary.

A PREACHER'S PRAYER

A preacher who was popular with his congregation explained his success as the result of a silent prayer which he always offered. "Lord, fill my mouth with worthwhile stuff, and nudge me when I've said enough."—Pilgrim Holiness Advocate.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

WATCHFUL SERVANTS

Earthly joys no longer please us,
  Here would we renounce them all,
Seek our only rest in Jesus
  Him our Lord and Master call.
Faith, our languid spirits cheering,
  Points to brighter worlds above,
Bid us look for His appearing—
  Bid us triumph in His love.

May our lights be always burning
  And our loins be girded round,
Waiting for our Lord's returning—
  Longing for the welcome sound!
Thus the Christian life adorning,
  Never will we be afraid
Should He come at night or morning—
  Early dawn or evening shade.

—Selected.

THE CHRISTIAN STEWARD will have to face his worldliness, sin and disobedience at Christ's judgment seat if he has been careless about the winning of souls (2 Cor. 5:9, 10). Fruitless Christians will face a tremendous loss (1 Cor. 3:10-15). Though opportunities and talents may differ, those who are equally faithful will receive like rewards (Matt. 25:14-30). When opportunities are the same, greater faithfulness will receive greater reward (Luke 19:11-27). The unfaithful servant cheats himself (Luke 19:20-26), and the unprofitable servant is to be cast into outer darkness (Matt. 25:30) like salt that loses its saltiness (Matt. 5:13).

The servant will have to face his motives for service (Rom. 1:14).

"Master, where shall I work today?"
  And my love flowed warm and free.
And He pointed out a tiny plot,
  And He said, "Tend that for Me."
But I answered quickly, "Oh, no, not there!
  Not anyone could see,
No matter how well my task was done—
  Not that little place for me."
And His voice, when He spoke, it was not stern,
  But He answered me tenderly:
"Disciple, search that heart of thine.
  Are you working for them or for me?
Nazareth was just a little place,
  And so was Galilee."

—Author Unknown.

We are not working to be seen of men (Matt. 6:5) but that our works may glorify God (Matt. 5:16). For what we may give up to serve Christ we are promised manifold more in this present time (Luke 18:29, 30), an hundred-fold now (Mark 10:29, 30), and a reigning with Christ in His coming Kingdom (2 Tim. 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:26, 27; 3:21). God's greatest rewards are for the soul winners (Dan. 12:2, 3).

We are gathered here together
  To learn the will of God.
He has sent us out to win them
  And share His precious Word.
We give ourselves to Jesus,
  To bring some soul to Him.
He will be with us His servants
  Nor let our ardour dim.

Oh, Saviour, give us courage
  In all Thy work to do.
Help us to never doubt Thee
  And do our faith renew.
Accept our consecration
  We seek no rich reward.
Thou King of all creation,
  Make us Thy servants, Lord.

Selected.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for October 14, 1956

TEN LAWS FOR LIFE

Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17

REBELLION is the spirit of our age! Man has always revolted against law; especially is this true of these last days. He refuses to be ruled by another. He seeks his own will, regardless of the opinion of others. With this attitude of mind and heart it is no wonder he is contemptuous of the laws of society, and disdainful of the laws of his parents. BUT THE GREATER DAMNATION OF THIS AGE IS THE TOTAL DISREGARD AND UTTER CONTEMPT FOR THE LAWS OF GOD! Yet law is necessary for life. This we shall see in our lesson today concerning "Ten Laws for Life."

The Ten Commandments are well named. They are just that—COMMANDMENTS! They are not worded as **suggestions**; they are **imperatives.** They were given, therefore, not for our **consideration,** but for our **obedience.**

Some will say, "Oh, that's all Old Testament stuff!" or, "We are under grace, not law!" We would call attention to the fact that all of the Old Testament Commandments but **one** are repeated in the New Testament. To add emphasis to this, many of the Old Testament Commandments have a New Testament counterpart. Note a few of them:

1. **Old Testament:** "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."

   New Testament: Jesus said, "If any man come to Me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and

brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple (Luke 14:26.) **Nothing must come between us and God!**

2. **Old Testament:** "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain."

   New Testament: "But I (Jesus) say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne . . ." (Matt. 5:34)

3. **Old Testament:** "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

   New Testament: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right" (Eph. 6:1).

4. **Old Testament:** "Thou shalt not commit adultery."

   New Testament: "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery . . . I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:19, 21).

Still others could be mentioned if space permitted. This is sufficient for people to know that **God's Moral Laws have not changed, nor has His attitude toward SIN!**

An important question is raised when the Ten Commandments are mentioned. If a man keeps all the commandments does he gain eternal life? The Bible states very clearly that no man (excepting Jesus Christ) has ever been morally and spiritually capable of obeying the laws of the Holy and Righteous God. The law was not given to bring **life**, but **conviction of sin.** "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Gal. 3:24).

Man, apart from Jesus Christ, is incapable of wholly obeying God. The law with its high standard exposed man's sin. He needed someone who would come to empower him to keep the law of God. **Jesus Christ came, fulfilled all the law, and became our RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

IS YOUR LESSON INTERESTING?

A COLLEGE IN NEW YORK state has conducted a study to find out what reasons students give for their "wandering minds"—causes of inattention in the classroom. They reveal some practical pointers for teachers.

1. **You are not ready** and set to go when your pupils come into the room. You have to look for your quarterly, or you need to speak to someone before you begin the lesson. Be ALL ready.

2. **Smile occasionally.** Students of all ages want to study in a cheery atmosphere. Even a good, hearty laugh is sometimes a fine way to pick up lagging attention.

3. **Begin with something interesting.** Too many teachers begin, "You will remember that last week we were studying . . . " No wonder the students are bored! Begin with a striking fact, a story, a thought-provoking question, some visual aid—but make a definite, attention-getting beginning.

4. **Know your lesson.** Know it so that you feel you can't get in all the interesting things you have to tell the class. Use many reference books in preparation, not just the quarterly. A well-prepared teacher won't have much trouble holding the interest of the class.

5. **You work too slowly**; you move too slowly. Your pupils have time to think up mischief while you are getting your sentences out. Speed up to the tempo of the class. If you practice teaching the lesson to the mirror at home, you won't hesitate when you stand before your class on Sunday morning.

6. **Don't do all the work yourself.** Why not have materials for the bulletin board put up before class by a pupil, rather than taking precious class time to put them there yourself? Use your pupils' energies; direct them in constructive channels.

7. **You look afraid of your class.** You will never be a good teacher until you look poised and efficient. Two items will cure most of your nervousness: prepare the lesson thoroughly; practice teaching it to the mirror at home.

8. One of your pupils may be nervous, or may need help. **Watch his face.** When you see he is wavering in attention or interest, drop in a little illustration, display some visual aid, or ask a question of him directly. The best teachers are those who forestall trouble, not those who can dominate the class and force obedience.

9. **You need to change the seating of your room.** Are you or the pupils forced to stare into bright windows? Are the pupils seated for best social adjustment and work accomplishment? Remember the four D's which destroy pupil attention: discomfort, disturbance, distraction, and disinterest.

Make your Sunday school lesson interesting and enjoyable by observing these little suggestions. Most of the responsibility rests on the teacher. As some educators put it, "If the pupil hasn't learned, the teacher hasn't taught." It's up to you, teacher! (Adapted from "Link")

How About Your Offerings?

THE EDUCATIONAL DAY OFFERING

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

Make checks payable to Ashland College, and send to Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio, and mark on Envelope, "Educational Day Offering."

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

HAMMOND ORGAN DEDICATED in Buenos Aires

SUNDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 16, 1956, was another high light in our spiritual experience in the Nunez church. It was the dedication service of the beautiful spinet Hammond organ so graciously donated by the Brethren in the States. We had a special sacred music concert with the "Adelante Juventud" quartet, a women's trio and a mixed octette.

Jane Byler played the organ, giving several solos. Then Eduardo Palaci, widely-known Latin-American evangelist (the father-in-law of June Byler), directed the dedicatory service and offered prayer. He was also the main speaker of the service and gave a fine evangelistic message. Nearly all the regular "Adelante Juventud" radio staff was present and Brother Harold Stacey also took part in the program.

Personal visitation and invitation in the Nunez community the week before brought many new people. There were more than a hundred present and a wonderful spirit pervaded the meeting. The salon was completely filled—every bench and chair and all the space completely crowded. There were another 20 or 25 standing in the halls through the entire two-hour program. We feel sure this will open a new phase for our work in the community. Without a doubt, last Sunday's meeting was a real height reacher in an excellent musical presentation of the Gospel message along with personal testimony and a strong evangelistic appeal. Everyone was in a reverent, expectant attitude and the Holy Spirit manifested His presence in a marvelous way. There were many expressions of deep joy and spiritual blessings received.

Expressions of Gratitude

Our own congregation is still overwhelmed at the amazing goodness of God in permitting our little church to enjoy the benefits of such a treasured and beautiful instrument. We are all extremely grateful to the Missionary Board and to everyone who had a part in making such a donation possible. Of course, the radio staff is also most anxious for the studio building so that the recording with the organ can soon be a reality. Our congregation is probably one of the newest in this whole city, and to have received so many blessings already in our few years of life makes us realize that our responsibility and calling is a large one and that we must be faithful with this new stewardship.

Like a dream come true

For Rob and me, it is the fulfillment of an "impossibility!" How often we talked and dreamed of how wonderful it would be to have an organ for the work, but usually with that final, hopeless sigh of a dream too big to even talk about!

When I played last Sunday, after all these years away from an organ, I'll admit my fingers shook; but more, my heart just seemed to overflow with gratitude to the Lord for His amazing love and goodness. I was greatly shamed because of my unbelief. It was like seeing a great dream fulfilled before our very eyes and God's hand seemed to write on our hearts, "Oh, ye of little faith!" Truly, the love of the brethren for the Brethren witness here is manifest in this gift and it is a tangible and beautiful expression of your love. We can only humble ourselves and say "Thank you."

We pray that those who play and those who hear the music of the organ may be called into a closer walk with our great Redeemer and that the Holy Spirit may touch hearts that are hard to reach in other ways: that altogether we may honor Him and glorify His name forever and ever.—Jane Byler.

LETTERS TO THE BISCHOFS

Any correspondence regarding deputation dates with Bob Bischof should be addressed to the Missionary Board office, 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

Sometimes when letters are addressed to the Bischofs at the missionary Home, they are held until the Bischofs return and the senders are kept waiting; whereas, if such letters are directed to the Missionary Board office replies can be sent explaining the whereabouts of our missionaries and how soon they will return.

Founding members signing the new constitution completing the reorganization of the Argentine Brethren Church, May 25, 1956, at the headquarters in Buenos Aires.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

FULL DOPE ON THE . . .

Brethren Youth Booster Club

Hints and sneak announcements about the Brethren Youth Booster Club have been given in this column for several weeks now. But this is the week when the full story can be revealed. Read closely!

A plentiful supply of Booster Club cards has been mailed to every church so that this fall drive may get underway immediately. The young people will be approaching you church members and requesting your membership in this Booster Club. A minimum gift of one dollar ($1.00) entitled you to join, but we hope that many of you will "boost" with more than the minimum donation.

You will be given a membership card and the gift, with a receipt stub, will be sent in to our national office. A systematic record will be kept and you will be contacted as members of the B. Y. Booster Club throughout the year. This money will assist in meeting our budget for the national work. BRETHREN YOUTH IS LOOKING FOR BRETHREN WHO WILL "BOOST" THEM.

JOIN THE BOOSTER CLUB

BELLS, BELLS, AND MORE BELLS

Richard Kuns and Sue Shope, Ashland College students from our Flora, Indiana Brethren Church, were united in marriage on September 9 in Flora. Best wishes to you both as you continue to work for Him. Don't cut your finger any more with the meat cutter though, Sue!

OFF THE PRESS

The September-October issue of the BRETHREN YOUTH MAGAZINE is off the press and being mailed to those of you who subscribe. It's packed full of news and reports that you shouldn't miss.

You'll meet John Flora, our new National B. Y. president, see B. Y. Crusaders in action at Bible School, watch the Ambassadors eat, learn more about the project, catch up on world news with Jerry Flora, and be led in meditation by Mrs. Ruth Barber. These are just a sample of what awaits you when the Brethren Youth Magazine comes to your door.

If you're missing out on this treat, just place one dollar in an envelope with your name and address and mail to: Brethren Youth, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio. The present issue will be on the way immediately. DON'T WAIT—SUBSCRIBE.

OPEN HOUSE IN B. Y. OFFICE

You probably think it was a little crowded, but we did get a big "open house" in our little Brethren Youth "office." On Wednesday, September 26 several members of the Ashland College Faculty and student body stopped in for our coming out party. They observed a few displays, watched the new mimeograph run, and enjoyed punch and cookies before leaving. The invitation stands for all of you to come in in the same way any time you're in Ashland.

NEWS SAMPLES

We announce with pleasure that the B. Y. office secretary for the coming school year is Chuck Huff from Waterloo, Iowa. Chuck is taking his first year of seminary training and doing a fine job of learning the ropes in the office. Our artist, Esther Carlson, has returned to school and once again has begun her work. B. Y. appreciates the diligent work of these two.

TWENTY-FIVE Ashland College students were in attendance at the First Mid-Week Meditation meeting for prayer and devotions. Professor Klingensmith also brought us a fine message on prayer. We earnestly desire that this group will grow. Pray for our prayer group.

REPORT NUMBER 91556

It is significant that Ashland won the football game at Manchester, but this is just half of the report that must be revealed. After the ballgame, about 170 Brethren Youth (this includes all ages) gathered at the North Manchester Brethren Church for a real good time. The response by all of you was swell! The Ambassadors sang, although Chuck lost his deep bass voice, everyone had plenty of potato chips and orange drink, Coach Bob Brownson spoke words of humor and advice to all of us, and Ray Aspinall led in some group singing.

Thanks to Rev. Bates and N. Manchester for opening their doors. We hope that many who came to the game will have the experience of rooting for an A. C. football team as a student in the years to come.

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 15—Brethren Youth Rally—
Center Chapel Brethren Church
FOR SOUTHERN INDIANA

NOVEMBER 18—Brethren Youth Rally—
Goshen Brethren Church
FOR NORTHERN INDIANA

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

Mrs. Frank Morrison, of Dayton, Ohio, at General Conference, delivered three devotional messages to the W. M. S. Ladies in their sessions. Mrs. Helen Jordan says, "I felt that all of the women would benefit by, and enjoy them, as well as the ones who were in attendance at Conference." Mrs. Morrison very graciously agreed to having them printed in the Women's Corner. We are glad to present the first of Mrs. Morrison's devotional messages this week. The other two will follow in order. Mrs. Morrison is Ohio District W. M. S. President. W. S. B.

BRETHREN WOMEN AT WORK THROUGH STEWARDSHIP

Scripture: John 15:1-6

TODAY'S DEVOTIONAL STUDY is stewardship, so let us look together to the 15th Chapter of John, for here is the pattern: here is found the key to effectual living—therefore to a wise stewardship. For all Christian life is a trust and a stewardship. It may be a good one, a bad one, an indifferent one but nevertheless always a stewardship. In the final analysis, God shall take into account the whole life of the Christian: still, not just the service but the servant too.

For the development of a just and worthy stewardship the Lord's loving advice to us, His personal word to you and me is this: "Abide in Me." That may seem very simple to you, but actually it's all we ever need to learn for that's everything! That's Christianity! That's faith! That's the new life; the ultimate; the top secret; the great invitation to you and to me today from the Living God Himself.

Now, let us approach more closely two amazing and wonderful subjects: stewardship and the Christian woman. Both these subjects defy a positive description. Stewardship, because it is so individual, so personal, always and ever a privilege and gift from God therefore possessing as many different aspects as the Giver Himself; woman, because she too is the handiwork of the Father who carefully in His own likeness fashioned His earth-born daughters and sons. The product always will bear the imprint of the maker. So the true Christian has engraved upon her or his heart the image, the inclinations of the Father Himself. Really, then, it is very fitting that God should entrust within your hands and mine, we who are His very own purchased representatives the care or the stewardship of all His wonderful mysteries, of His very own Word and of all the earthly things set before us.

Yes, the summons to stewardship is man's oldest calling, for in the beginning did God not say, have dominion over all the earth and all that is in it. Care for it; protect and nourish it; multiply and bring forth frui for you are my children and I have given unto you ever good and perfect gift.

To the Christian, stewardship can be a surprising an delightful jewel with many facets, for the privilege and possibilities are many.

There is the investing of yourself; of time, talent knowledge, effort and money to the work of the Lord But may I say this, Truly, all things, material and spir itual, the "fulness" of the earth belongs first to the Lor our God. As the poet says:

My Father is rich in houses and land;
The wealth of the world He holds in His Hands.

It is somewhat like this: My little son, realizing t some slight degree his love for me as his Mother, learn that today is my birthday. Subconsciously aware that have cared for him all during his short life, that I fee and clothe his little body, that I offer love and sympath for his hurts, guide and direct his actions and mould hi very life by my attitudes and words, he feels stirrin within his young heart a sweet overwhelming affectio toward me. So he seeks now to return my love in th only way he knows how—a visible gift for my birthday Therefore he asks me for 10 cents to go down to the cor ner store to buy me a gift. Soon he returns with th present that I had made possible for him to purchase i the first place. But he's forgotten this part and so hav I. For the offer of love, lying so limply in his grubb little hand, tied so painstakingly with a red string an the radiant look shining forth from his triumphant dar eyes touches my heart beyond words.

And it is ever thus with the Father and with you an me as His children, for God loving His children allow and enables us by His grace to return to Him, in a ric measure if we will, all that which He first gave to us.

However, all of our faithful service, our careful guai dianship, our love can in no way compare to His gifts c mercy and grace. Much of what we have to return i carnal anyway, for we have no righteousness of our owi no holiness that originates with us, really nothing of ou very own invention that is even fit to lay upon the alta of Almighty God. Only through the Son, only by God amazing grace and mercy do we even acquire the rigl to come into His presence, let alone offer Him a gift. S it's not very becoming for us as Christian people to sa "I am a good steward. I do my share. What more ca you expect?" As Luke reminds us, "When ye have dor all things commande[illegible] f you, say we are unprofitab servants; We ha[illegible] at which it was our duty to do (Luke 17:10).

Furthermore, a[illegible] erlasting importance He h made us stewa[illegible] ace, of His mysteries, of H Word, for does Jes[illegible] say? "All things that have heard of my Fath[illegible] ave made known unto you (John 15:15). He gives us all spiritual blessings, holdir back nothing from those who seek Him. So this partic lar privilege given to us as stewards of His grace, is t "center" of the jewel of stewardship, the radiant glea that overshadows and bathes every other surface of th stone with brilliance and [illegible]onstant light. "As every m hath received the gift, even so minister the same one

nother as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." I Peter 4:10).

As sons and daughters of the royal household He en-ourages us to help with the daily tasks, the manage-nent of the affairs, the performing of many services, or in this doing and assuming stewardship of the house, ve are ever growing in grace and ever seeking and learn-ng of Him, thus coming more surely each day to a con-tant abiding within His will. Actually, as wayward and etermined children we must be a very real hindrance o the Chief Steward Himself. But if we are ever to be vorthy heirs with Christ, to help rule and reign with Him through the ages to come, we must be strictly rained in the Word, nourished and brought to maturity n the Way.

For that purpose and to that end He is building His hurch today, and appointing and ordaining, not just the lergy, but "every" Christian into a royal priesthood to vitness to and of His love; to propagate the Word; to uard its true interpretation; to stand firm against false octrines and lazy teachers; to walk uprightly by faith; o abide serenely within His will. Yes, "Abide in me, valk with me," He promises, "And ye shall be children f light, inheritors of eternal life and just stewards of ood reputation."

Stewards are we, ever and wholly in debt to the love f God, yet freemen by the Spirit of God entrusted with ll the unsearchable treasures of the Lord Himself: lessed, not just in part nor not just from, but "accord-ng" to the riches of His glory that we might be filled vith the fulness of God. An amazing and unlimited trust s ours.

And when the hour comes when we shall give an ac-ount of our stewardship and restore our talents unto Him that gave them, shall we too like our elder brother vho brought us to this moment, shall we too hear those riceless words, "This is my beloved daughter. This is my eloved son in whom I am well pleased."

Mrs. Frank Morrison,

Dayton, Ohio.

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 2)

WATERLOO, IOWA. Rally Day—October 7th—Goal: 07; Rev. A. T. Ronk, Pastor.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO, [illegible]ETNA BRETHREN. Iomecoming—October 14th—R[illegible]ev. E. Ault, former astor, guest speaker; Rev. G[illegible]. Solomon, pastor.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLA[illegible] Evangelistic Cam-aign—beginning October 7[illegible]. White, Evan-elist; Rev. L. O. McCartne[illegible] Pastor.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Revival Meeting—October -21—Rev. Percy C. Miller, Evangelist; Rev. J. D. Hamel, astor.

WARSAW, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—October 8-21 —Rev. Woodrow B. Brant, Evangelist; Rev. Robert Hol-inger, Pastor.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Annual Homecoming—October 14—Morning, afternoon and evening services. Guest speakers: Rev. Ernest Baker, Pastor Bark Hill Church of God, and the Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin, Governor of the state of Maryland; Rev. Bruce C. Shanholtz, pastor.

ARDMORE, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—beginning October 22nd—Rev. Floyd Sibert, Evangelist; Rev. Arthur J. Tinkel, Pastor.

DAYTON, OHIO Brethren. Rally Day—October 28th—Rev. Percy C. Miller, Pastor.

GRATIS, OHIO. Homecoming—October 28th—Rev. John F. Burton, Pastor.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Revival Services—October 28th through November 11th—Rev. Virgil E. Meyer, Evangelist; Rev. L. V. King, Pastor.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
LAYMEN'S RALLY
October 6, 1956
Hagerstown Brethren Church
Time—5:00 P. M. E. S. T.
I. B. LITTON.

NORTHEASTERN OHIO LAYMEN
North Georgetown Brethren Church
October 16, 1956
Registration, at the church—6:00 P. M.
Meal: $1.25
Reservations should be in by October 12th.
Send to: Forrest Albright, R. D. 1, Alliance, Ohio.
Speaker for the evening—Rev. Virgil Meyer

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
W. M. S. RALLY
October 25, 1956
Meeting Starts at 10:30 A. M.
Hagerstown Brethren Church

All Societies please notify Mrs. James Ault, 104 S. Mulberry St., Hagerstown, Md., the approximate number to attend from their group by October 20th.

Mrs. Edna W. Logan, President,
Southeastern District W. M. S.

Ashland College Homecoming
October 20, 1956

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

YOUTH **ARE** IMPORTANT AT ASHLAND COLLEGE

ASHLAND COLLEGE IS

1. Brethren in church emphasis.
2. Interested in Brethren young people.
3. The college home of most Brethren ministers.
4. The only source of information and training at the college level specially for the Brethren Church.
5. The home of General Conference.

ASHLAND COLLEGE HAS

1. A beautiful campus dedicated to Christian higher education.
2. A fully accredited program of study.
3. A well-trained faculty dedicated to helping young people.
4. A fine, energetic student body where learning is serious, yet friendly and personal.
5. Almost any kind of training at the college level needed by any young person in the church.

ASHLAND COLLEGE NEEDS

1. The prayers, interest and support of every member of the Brethren Church.
2. Every qualified Brethren youth of college age who considers a college education.
3. Generous financial support to help pay for the cost of educating Brethren college and Seminary students.

GENERAL CONFERENCE HAS DESIGNATED OCTOBER AS EDUCATION MONTH IN THE BRETHREN CHURCH. GIVE YOUR CHECK THROUGH YOUR CHURCH OR MAIL IT **TODAY.** The need is for $39,550. This is approximately **DOUBLE** the 1955 offering. It represents actual needs for **Brethren** College and Seminary students as follows:

for students in the college	$12,250
for Seminary students	27,300
Total needed	$39,550

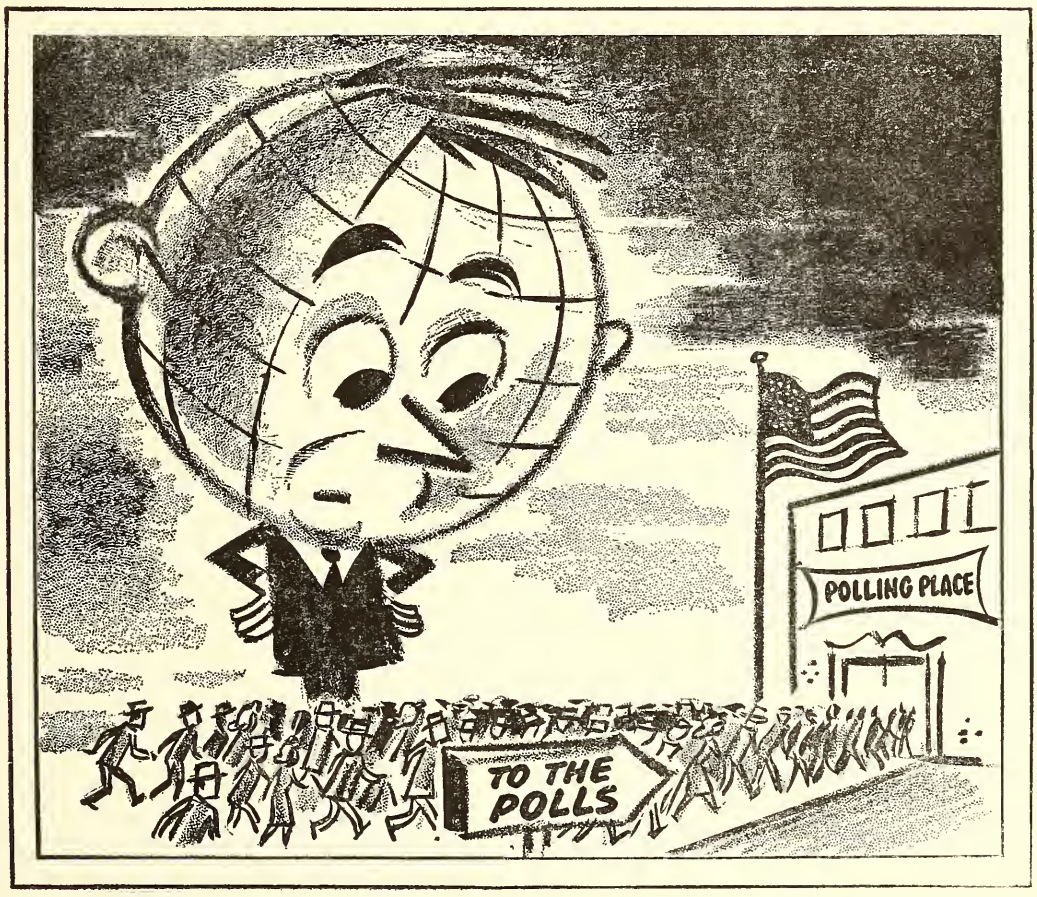
EVERY BRETHREN MEMBER
SHOULD CONTRIBUTE THIS YEAR!

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

The World will be watching Us on November 6th.

MANCHESTER COLLEGE LIBRARY
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA



Let's go to the Polls and Vote!

VOL. LXXVIII October 13, 1956 No. 40

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

MAURERTOWN, VIRGINIA. Brother Ed L. Miller, pastor of the Maurertown Brethren Church, was stricken with a heart attack Sunday morning, September 23rd. He is a patient in the Shenandoah Valley Memorial Hospital, Woodstock, Virginia. Suffering from a Coronary Occlusion (blood clot), Brother Miller has been in an oxygen tent. Let us remember in a very special way at the throne of grace in prayer our brother, veteran of many years of service to the Brethren Church.

LOST CREEK, KENTUCKY. A card from Brother G. E. Drushal makes note of the Revival Meetings being conducted October 8th through 18th. Brother W. E. Thomas is the Evangelist.

FAYETTEVILLE, W. VA. GATEWOOD BRETHREN. We note that Rally Day was an event of October 7th.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Brother Freeman Ankrum reports a "packed house, including one woman who came on a stretcher," greeted Maryland's Governor, the Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin, at his recent appearance in the St. James church. The Governor, who spoke in the St. James church the evening of September 23rd, described his recent trip to the Holy Land. A reception followed the evening service. Maryland's Governor gave Brother Ankrum an etching of Maryland's State house, for use in the church. In return, the church presented the Governor a cake. Brother Bruce C. Shanholtz, of our Linwood church, gave the invocation for the service.

Brother Ankrum, and his activities in the field of Church History, was the subject of an article appearing recently in the Hagerstown "Daily Mail," over the Editor's signature. Mention is made of Brother Ankrum's recent trip to a meeting of the Historical Committee at Elgin, Illinois. A brief history and lineage of the Brethren is also included in the article. (His trip to Elgin is also the subject of Brother Ankrum's monthly historical article appearing in this **Evangelist.)**

One new member was received into the St. James church recently by letter.

A goal of 225 has been set for the October 14th Rally Day attendance.

VINCO, PENNA. Pastor W. B. Brant conducted morning devotions over Johnstown radio stations the week of October 1-6.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. We note that gifts totaling nearly $1600 were dedicated on September 16th, to be used for a new heating plant. It was hoped to go over the goal of $2000 by the end of September.

BRUSH VALLEY, PENNA. A card from pastor David L. Rambsel says that the church has purchased a house with 10 acres of ground to be used as a parsonage. The Rambsels' new address is Adrian, Penna., Rt. 1.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Baptismal services were held the evening of September 23rd.

Harvest home Sunday and Rally Day, with an attendance goal of 500 in Sunday School, was held on September 30th. Dr. Claud Studebaker, former pastor, was guest speaker at the afternoon service.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. A communication from Mrs. Rose Richey, of the Muncie church notes that, "Due to the sudden serious illness of Rev. E. J. Black, he was compelled to resign as pastor of the Muncie church." Let us remember our brother at the throne of grace in his time of illness.

MATTESON, MICHIGAN. Brother R. K. Higgins is the scheduled guest speaker at the dedication of the Matteson Mission church, Sunday afternoon, October 14th.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Brother Fred Pippen, founder and leader of the Matteson Mission, was the evening speaker in the Elkhart church on September 23rd.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. The stewardship committee of the church met recently and planned a program of stewardship education to run through the entire year. The program was inaugurated with attractive mimeograph insets and stewardship messages in the weekly bulletins. During the year speakers will present inspirational and informational messages to classes, groups and organizations of the church.

COMING EVENTS

Ashland College Homecoming October 20, 1956

(Continued on Page 6)

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Church History
Rev. Edwin Boardman, Church Methods

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The Editor's Pulpit

The Whole World Is Watching

IN A FEW WEEKS, it will be National Election time. In 1952, 62 million Americans voted in the general election. The question now is, "How big will our turnout be November 6th." It is called to our attention that even with the record 62 million vote in 1952, that only 63% of Americans of voting age actually did vote. This is a smaller percentage than vote in Canada, England, Italy, France, Japan, and many other democracies.

The whole world is watching to see what we are going to do as a nation on November 6th. Will they see us, as freedom loving Americans, going to the polls, expressing our preference of candidates? Or will they see us not considering democracy and a free nation worth enough to us that we will take time to go and vote?

Many sections of the world deny the citizens the right to vote, to elect their own rulers. Your vote is your one big power in favor of a free nation and a democracy.

We are urging everyone of voting age to be at the polls on November 6th. In addition to being the democratic thing to do, it is also the Christian thing to do. We are living in a nation whose laws are designed so that we can worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. Our presence at the polls, and using good judgment in casting our vote, shows to our neighbors at home and throughout the world that we appreciate what we have and that we want to keep it that way.

We often hear the argument that "one vote won't matter." Space is limited, or we would cite for you incidents of where elections have been decided by the one vote. Then, too, with only 63% of voting age Americans going to the polls (as in 1952) it is obvious that the "stay at home" vote, even a fair portion of it, could decide any election.

***"A Bible and a newspaper in every house, a good school in every district—all studied and appreciated as they merit—are the principal support of virtue, morality, and civil liberty."*—Benjamin Franklin**

Voting is the right that guarantees *all* other rights. Let nothing come between you and your vote this year. Study the candidates, and hear what they have to say. Talk over the issues. Then be sure you're registered, so you can walk up to that voting booth with confidence on Election Day—and vote as a free American!

Published as a public service in cooperation with The Advertising Council

We hear the argument that "we don't know the candidates, and thus one man is the same to us as another." Wide-awake, earnest church members will have made it their business to know about the candidates—their stand on important, vital issues. More important in the primaries, it is still important now to know your candidates.

Your voting franchise is a God-given privilege. Don't jeopardize it by taking an indifferent attitude on election day. Whether your candidates win or lose, you will know that you have exercised your right to cast a vote in a democratic nation. Then, if things go up or down, you are at liberty to talk, because you have done your part. Refrain from voting, and you must live with a conscience which says that if you had voted, things might have been different.

In the interests of a Christian democracy, study the issues and the men, and then, on November 6th, GO TO THE POLLS AND VOTE. The whole world is watching, to see what we do with this liberty called democracy. W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

PURVEYORS OF HISTORY

HISTORIANS ARE PEOPLE, just like you. Yet in the eyes of some they are a strange race in that they find pleasure and enjoyment in musty tomes, and dusty volumes. They delight in delving into the minds of the aged who remember yesterday far better than the events of today, and revel in their reminiscences. Inasmuch as tastes differ we are thereby afforded a variety for life with its numerous phases.

From the time the Author sat as a wide-eyed boy, with a mouth perhaps almost as wide, at the feet of those who would tell him history stories, the days of the past have always been entrancing. The door between us and this past has a clear glass through which we can look but there is no latch on our side of the door so we cannot bring from the past by entering the days of long, long ago. Unfortunately our forefathers had a battle on their hands in the New World. There were numerous mouths to feed, a roof to provide for protection from the elements, and the need of contesting with an unfriendly land for a living. Many of them were so effacing in their modesty they left not as many written records as present day Historians would like. We are still searching for Diaries kept by valiant Brethren of other days. Now and then we come upon light fragments of their work. Perhaps there may be a temptation to glorify the days in which our forefathers labored and strived, but very likely to any one who lived among them there was more hard work than glory. It would appear when days have come and gone, that there is a tendency, perhaps good at that, to remember the good and forget the unpleasantries. Our day has its problems, and its challenges. Seldom is there a day without its heartache, yet future Historians will likely record fewer of its shadows than of its high lights. The Historians of today can be a help to those who follow when they insist upon a preservation of records.

The matter of history to which we have referred thus far in this article is that of BRETHREN, taking it in a general way. There are five groups of churches plus a few smaller who trace their lineage back to the River Bank at Schwarzenau. The Historian may at times be criticised by those who fail to recall that our common background gives no choice in reporting the events of other days. Recent events are within the knowledge of all interested, and therefore of less general interest than those events which have been hidden in the ashes an debris of years.

There are those faithfully dedicated to bringing to th knowledge of those interested, the events of our commo heritage. This has been and is being unselfishly don Naturally the larger "child" or perhaps the larger house hold of the line would have more Historians and als more interest in the preserving of records which hav been so long lost. That one in this case is The Churc of the Brethren with which we have more in commo than in disagreement. This is witnessed upon the Africa Mission Field, in the splendid cooperation, as there shoul be.

A year ago roundly speaking, the Author was selecte from the Brethren Historians and asked to accept a appointment upon their Historical Committee. This wa a high and unsolicited honor and was accepted wit pleasure. This in the main is a report of the first meet ing the Author was privileged to attend at Elgin, Illinoi August 1, 1956. Members are Professor Floyd Mallot, c Bethany Seminary, Chicago, Illinois; who was unable t be present at the meeting as he was in Europe at th time; Elder Reuel Pritchett, of White Pine, Tennessee Dr. Gladys Muir, on leave of absence from her duties a Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana; Rev. I F. Waltz of 6611 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphi Pennsylvania; Dr. C. Ernest Davis of Elgin, Illinoi Rev. Austin Cooper, R. D. No. 3, Staunton, Virginia an the writer from St. James, Maryland.

All members of the Committee, the Author no e ception, do their historical work as an avocation. Th meeting took place in the second floor Conference roo in the Brethren Publishing House, Elgin, Illinois. Re Austin Cooper was scheduled to bring the devotions. The were brought under the handicap of an auto wreck on slippery street near Elgin during the rainfall where h had wrecked his car to the extent of some $300.00. Hov ever with some minor work he was able to return in to Virginia for the major repairs. Dr. C. Ernest Dav was appointed temporary chairman and proceeded to r the meeting without loss of time. Dr. Gladys Muir r viewed a manuscript dedicated to Local Church Libra ians and Historians. Following this, all members, inclu ing the wives of Rev. B. F. Waltz and Rev. Aust Cooper were entertained for lunch in the home of Dr.

Ernest Davis. The afternoon session began promptly at 1:30.

Rev. B. F. Waltz brought in a report on the 250th Anniversary which is planned for Schwarzenau in 1958. Incidentally it may be of interest to know that he is pastor of the oldest Brethren Church in America, at Germantown, built in 1770. Upon the walls of the first part of the building may be seen as the Author saw it, a plate containing the name of Alexander Mack, Jr., who was Pastor of the Church in its infancy. Inasmuch as there is a common interest in the "children" of the original parent in the matter of 1958, it may be of interest to some who read this to give just a few of the plans being made for attendance. Four boats have been chartered and there are many interested in making the trip. The first boat will leave June 6, 1958. The round trip fare, all expense for 22 days will be $850.00. June 12, the second boat will sail with a fare of $800.00. June 21 the third boat will sail with the fare of $700.00. July 4th the last boat chartered will sail with the fare of $900.00. If the individual desires to visit Italy or Palestine there will be additional cost. The time for crossing either way will be six days.

Inasmuch as there will not be room for all to stay at Schwarzenau, for the services between July 29 and August 4, the visitors will be housed at Cassel, a two hour journey away. If dreams and hopes are the things out of which life is made, they are valuable even if in time it is found that they are not realized. There has been pleasure and enrichment in their dreaming and hoping. Therefore Mrs. Ankrum and the writer hope that the "Fates" will somehow see to the fulfilling of their dream to be at Schwarzenau in 1958. To walk where my ancestors, the Macks walked, served and lived as well as sacrificed, will furnish much inspiration for what days may remain to hope and dream. The trip should furnish many additional slides to an already large library of the same. The Committee is at work upon the Anniversary Program, and more information will be given in regard to it to the various churches interested.

The writer, at the meeting, reported upon the plans to mark the graveyard on Dunnings Mountain, near Bakers Summit, Pennsylvania. Here are buried Elder John and Elizabeth Mack Holsinger, William Mack, father of Elizabeth and the son of Alexander Mack, Jr. There are other graves. The Author, some fourteen years or more ago with Henry Good of Waynesboro and the late H. H. Brumbaugh, penetrated the weeds and briars to locate this neglected burial spot. We have always felt that it should not be permitted to return to the unknown and unmarked category as has happened to so many graveyards. Especially since this contains the earthly remains of those prominent in our early church life. As has been mentioned in a recent Historical article append, Mr. Clair Holsinger of New Enterprise, Pennsylvania is heading the marking and improving project. His labor is a labor of love. Six graves have been definitely located. After our discussion of the project at the Historical Meeting, and knowing that the Holsinger Reunion was to be held on August 5th, it was decided to encourage them by making a contribution of $25.00 to the project. This was to be sent to Mr. Holsinger before the reunion date.

May 28, 1954 Elder Reuel Pritchett gave to Bridgewater College, of Bridgewater, Virginia a collection of 5666 articles. Among them were 175 books. Among these books were eight Saur Bibles. This collection is on display in the Reuel Pritchett room. This was discussed in considerable detail. All Historians likely have their PAN letters as well as their FAN letters. Rev. Pritchett, whose activities belies his seventy-two years of age is a very busy man. He had given out the information that if any one possessed a Saur Bible and desired to know the year of its publication, or to which of the three editions it belonged, just to send him a leaf from the book. He could

(Continued on Page 8)

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE:

Back Row: Rev. Freeman Ankrum, Dr. C. Ernest Davis, Rev. B. F. Waltz.

Front Row: Rev. Reuel Pritchett, Dr. Gladys Muir, Rev. Austin Cooper.

(Rev. Pritchett is standing on a step which makes him appear to be much taller than the rest of the group. F. A.)

ELDER JAMES E. AULT DIES OF HEART ATTACK September 28, 1956

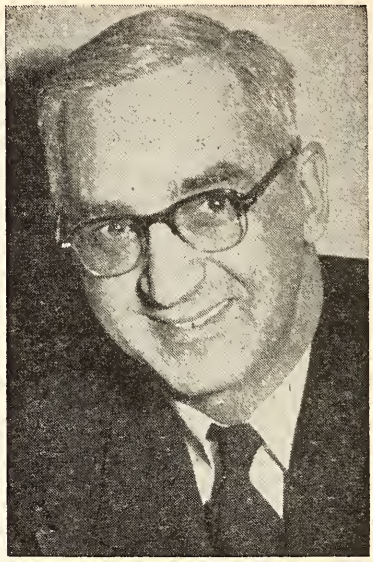
ELDER JAMES E. AULT, Pastor of the First Brethren Church, Hagerstown, Maryland, died of a heart attack, about 2:30 Friday morning, September 28th, at the Washington County Hospital. His death was unexpected, as he had been about his regular pastoral duties on Thursday, and Thursday evening. He was 44 years of age at the time of his death.

Rev. Ault had been pastor of the Hagerstown church for the past eight years. Previous to that time he had served as pastor of the Oakville, Indiana, Brethren church.

He was the son of the late Albert and Edith (Balsbaugh) Ault, and was born in Cass County, Indiana, near Mexico, Indiana, on April 10, 1912. He graduated from Twelve Mile High School in 1930, and was a graduate of Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio in 1942 with an A.B. degree. He also attended Ashland Seminary for two years and then transferred to Hamma Divinity School at Wittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio, where he received his B.D. degree in 1945. While in college and seminary he served as pastor of two Brethren churches; at Williamstown and Gretna, Ohio.

Surviving is his wife, Rachel (Hildebran) Ault.

Rev. Ault was active in the civic life of Hagerstown in addition to his duties as pastor of the church. He was a member of the Y. M. C. A. Board, the Salvation Army Board, a commissioner with the Hagerstown Housing Authority. He was a member of the Lions Club, the Washington County Ministerial Association, serving as president; was a member of the Washington County Council of Churches in which he served as chairman of the City Park Vesper Services each summer.



He was a member of the Southeastern District o Brethren Churches' District Mission Board and the Min isterial Examining Board. He was a member of the Na tional Ministerial Association of the Brethren Church.

Services for Rev. Ault were held on Saturday morn ing in the church, conducted by the Rev. Dr. William M Norment, and the Rev. Robert Delp, both of Hagerstown Further services were held the following Monday in th Mexico, Indiana, Brethren Church, with Rev. Wayne Swi hart officiating. Burial was in the Green Lawn Cemetery Mexico, Indiana.

Our sympathies are expressed to Sister Ault in th passing of her husband, and to the First Brethren Churc of Hagerstown, in the passing of their beloved pasto May the Lord who is rich in mercy and grace strengthe your lives and hearts, and bring comfort to your soul

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 2)

FLORA, INDIANA. Homecoming—**October 14th**—Rev. C. A. Stewart, Pastor.

NORTH GEORGETOWN, OHIO. Rally Day—**October 21st**—Rev. Donald Rowser, Pastor.

ARDMORE, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**beginning October 22nd**—Rev. Floyd Sibert, Evangelist; Rev. Arthur J. Tinkel, Pastor.

GRATIS, OHIO. Homecoming—**October 28th**—Rev. John F. Burton, Pastor.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Revival Services—**October 28th through November 11th**—Rev. Virgil E. Meyer, Evangelist; Rev. L. V. King, Pastor.

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. Rally Day —October 28th—Rev. Percy C. Miller, Pastor.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Homecoming—**October 21s** —Professor Charles Munson, speaker at 2:00 P. M. se vice; Rev. William H. Anderson, Pastor .

FLORA, INDIANA. Evangelistic Services—**Novemb** 4-18—Rev. N. V. Leatherman, Evangelist; Rev. C. Stewart, Pastor.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Revival Meeting—**Novemb** 4-11—Rev. C. A. Stogsdill, Evangelist; Rev. Bruce Shanholtz, Pastor.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Week End Bible Conferen —**October 26-28**; Friday and Saturday evenings, 7:3 Sunday, 10:30 and 7:00—Speaker, Rev. Don J. Kenyo Instructor in Greek and Bible, Ft. Wayne, Bible Colleg Rev. William H. Anderson, Pastor.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
W. M. S. RALLY
October 25, 1956
Hagerstown Brethren Church
Meeting Starts at 10:30 A. M.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

LET'S WRITE A SUCCESS STORY

The Missionary Board, at general conference time, named a committee to renew the promotion of the TEN DOLLAR CLUB, which was established more than five years ago. To date we have something over 800 members. The GOAL which the Board has set is **2,000** MEMBERS.

More than three weeks ago a letter and a reply card were sent to each church, through the pastor or church secretary. This letter asked that a KEY PERSON be named in each church and that the name be sent to the committee. It also suggested that this key person be willing to explain and promote the TEN DOLLAR CLUB in his church and to solicit new members.

Thus far, only about one fourth of the churches have responded with a name. It is possible that some are waiting for a business meeting of the church in order to make a selection; but, please don't hold up progress by delaying the response from your church! A number have indicated eagerness to help with this forward-moving program.

Surely, by now most of us know that all money received in this way is used to assist new churches in building. The plan has worked remarkably well in proportion to our promotion of it. It will work even better—but not by itself; we must re-activate it!

Will you join with those who are planning a new mission story, and make it a SUCCESS STORY?

The committee says—"2,000 Ten Dollar Club members by 1957!"

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

The Committee—E. M. Riddle
Everett Miller
J. D. Hamel

MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

Mr. and Mrs. John Rowsey—and Susan—are living at Hartford, Connecticut, this semester, where they are studying at the Kennedy School of Missions. The Rowseys are under appointment to Argentina, and will likely leave next spring. They are studying Latin American culture and other subjects which will be helpful in missionary work.

John is already employed by the Kennedy School in the audio-visual department, helping with technical work and incidentally helping himself financially. This employment will also give him experience in the work he will be doing in Argentina—radio evangelism.

The Krafts

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kraft are back in Ashland completing their seminary work. Chuck is filling the pulpit at Nappanee each week until the new pastor arrives on the field. The Krafts are under appointment to Nigeria and plan to leave about the first of the year.

Please remember these young people in prayer as they complete their training for service in the mission field.

NEW PASTOR AT MULVANE

Rev. Myron Dodds and family recently moved to Mulvane, Kansas, one of our home mission churches, where he has been called as pastor.

Reverend Dodds comes to Mulvane from Gratis, Ohio, where he served as pastor for several years. Reverend J. F. Burton, who did an excellent service at Mulvane as pastor, is simply changing places with his successor: he is taking the Gratis Church as his new charge.

DAN—the Church Extension Man

says, "Those Sarasota folks know what to do when a new pastor comes to serve them. Why, they filled the cupboards and refrigerator of that new parsonage with food and even placed some new furniture in the rooms, on approval, so that they would not look so bare."

—And by the way, the enthusiasm of this group of people is a real challenge. They are pushing ahead, although they are in temporary quarters. If someone doesn't hurry, they will be overflowing their present meeting place before the first unit of their permanent building is constructed.

PURVEYORS OF HISTORY

(Continued from Page 5)

easily decipher the year by the style of type. A leaf was received and being very busy there was a delay in getting to the comparison. A scathing letter was received from this woman accusing him, "a Minister of the Gospel in surreptiously securing a part of her valuable Bible." Yes. People write in when the Author has an article, see the light of day, and wonder why this or why that was not in the production. Often times it was that the thing or matter mentioned was not known and that it would have been gladly made a part of the production had it come to light in time. Incidentally some who are living should perhaps be pleased that some things are omitted.

There was discussion regarding the birthplace of the late Elder Wilbur B. Stover. Following this, Rev. B. F. Waltz brought a very enlightening report upon the Schwenkfelder Historical Library in Pennsylvania. It may be of interest to the reader, if he is still here, to know that there are four Peace Groups. They are the Quakers, The Mennonites, The Schwenkfelders and the Brethren.

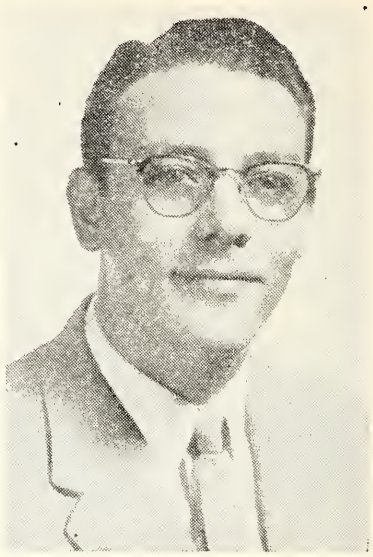
Members of the Committee may not succeed themselves. The term is for ten years. A visit had been made to the large Historical Library in the building. There was a reorganization. The result was the naming of Rev. Reuel Pritchet as Chairman and Dr. C. Ernest Davis as Secretary.

The writer was intensely interested to know of the recent finds relative to our history in old books and German records. Among those finds, was Alexander Mack's Hymn, "Counting The Cost." This was the one which furnished them so much inspiration in the launching of their work. This was found, still in the German hymn book. It is of considerable length, and naturally in the old style. Four stanzas have been used in the English. How this could escape the destructive forces of the wars of the centuries, is almost beyond belief. Perhaps Schwarzenau has preserved its peacefulness manifested that morning when the eight went down to the mist-covered river to covenant for peace rather than war. War settles nothing except that those who die in it are dead for all time. Our forefathers were ahead of their times. In fact the matter of this being so made them out of step and brought persecution and oppression upon their heads, causing them to be wanderers in their own home land. What they would have done had not friendly hands been stretched out to them from the new land of America, is anyone's guess.

The experience of meeting with this group of historians is deeply appreciated. In no way can we imagine how we would be better treated in every way. This Committee has funds set aside for its activities, and such was manifested in seeing that no one traveled at his or her own expense, to the meeting. The Committee meets once a year and already plans are in the making for next year's meeting.

St. James, Maryland.

PAUL D. TINKEL ORDAINED AT ROANOKE, INDIANA, CHURCH



ORDINATION SERVICES for Paul D. Tinkel were held Sunday afternoon, July 1, 1956, in the Brethren Church of Roanoke, Indiana. His father, Rev. Arthur H. Tinkel, and his brother, Rev. Arthur J. Tinkel, participated in the service.

The program was as follows:

Prelude ..... "Adagio Vesperale" .... ..Arthur Page
Invocation ..Rev. C. C. Grisso, North Manchester, Indiana
Action of Church Calling for Ordination
Moderator, Robert Zent
Action of District Ministerial Examining Board
Rev. Claud Studebaker, Loree, Indiana
Solo—Rev. Arthur J. Tinkel, Ardmore Heights, South Bend, Indiana
Scriptural Charge..Rev. Arthur J. Tinkel, Oakville, Ind
Ordination Prayer, Laying On Of Hands ....Rev. Arthur H. Tinkel, assisted by Rev. Claud Studebaker, Rev. Arthur J. Tinkel, Rev. Smith Rose, Rev. C. C. Grisso
Setting Apart and Declaration of Authority
Rev. Claud Studebake

For Mrs. Tinkel

The Charge and Consecration To Serve As Wife Of A Elder—Rev. Smith F. Rose, Brighton, Brethren Church Howe, Indian
Prayer With Laying On Of Hands For Wife Of Elde Rev. Arthur H. Tinkel, Assisted by Rev. Claud Studebaker, Rev. Arthur J. Tinkel, Rev. Smith F. Rose, Rev. C. C. Grisso.
Solo .....Lionel Kreame
Benediction .....Rev. Paul D. Tinkel, Pasto
Postlude ..... "Temple March" ....James Lyo

Rev. Paul D. Tinkel, Pastor
Miss Lorena Zent, Organist

A reception was held, following the services, in th Church parlors. Rev. Tinkel is the Pastor of the Roanok Brethren Church.

What's Doing in the Churches

HADDIX, KENTUCKY

This is the third time I have started a letter for the Evangelist. I hope to get this one finished.

Some have written to me asking how to send clothing. Things can be sent here in my name, to Haddix by Parcel Post, or heavy bags can be sent by freight. There is no freight agent here, but they will be taken care of. Please do not send by express. When you do I must hire a man to bring it from Jackson.

Send either by Parcel Post or freight. I have received plenty of reading material to last for quite a long time. Thanks to all who responded to my call, if any have sent papers, clothing or gifts of any kind and did not receive an answer, please pardon me. I think I have answered all.

Much more interest has been shown by the different churches for the work here the past year than ever before, for which I feel very grateful. School has started and people will be asking for more clothing. When sending clothing, please do not send "shorts."

The interest in Sunday School is about the same. One man was interested enough to buy us a new wall board register for the Sunday School room. Mr. Drushal has been preaching for us on Saturday nights.

School has begun for another year and I am teaching the Bible every day to the school children. Pray with me that some of these children will be Christian workers, missionaries, or preachers of God's Word.

I can see some good prospects, but they need the teaching and training of Christian parents, and very few get that.

Mrs. Myrtle Kessinger.

COUNTY LINE, LAKEVILLE, INDIANA

The work at County Line is still progressing! The North Liberty B. Y. C. and our B. Y. C. had several profitable parties together this year. The Teegarden Boys' Brotherhood and our boys also enjoyed getting together this year. Two Singspirations were enjoyed by Teegarden, North Liberty, South Bend, County Line and Ardmore B. Y. C. groups. It is wonderful for all ages of Brethren to get together!

The average attendance of our Sunday School this year was 118 compared to 115 last year. Average S. S. offering this year $43.84; last year $41.34. The indebtedness on the new parsonage has been cut to $500.

Highway U. S. 31, which goes by our church, has been closed all summer. Attendance at services have held up fine in spite of dust and the detour. They are pouring cement, for one lane of the new highway, now (Sept. 26).

Four young people have recently been baptized and accepted as members of our church. The booklet, "A Brief Introduction to the Brethren Church" is being given to our new converts. A questionnaire will be given them soon after they have read the booklet.

The pastor's daughter, Sharon Rose Gilmer, who was stricken with St. Vitus Dance in July, is still unable to care for herself or go to school, although she is able to be up most of the time. She was anointed on Sunday, July 29. On the following Tuesday she began to show improvement and God assured us that she would recover. We are very grateful for all the prayers of Christian people everywhere!

Herbert Gilmer, Pastor.

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

On Thursday evening, September 13th, Brother Robert Bischof gave us a talk and showed slides of the missionary work in Nigeria. We are very grateful to have him in our presence and were blessed of God as he explained about each detail of the work.

We need to always remember him and his wife in our prayers as they labor for the Master in that land.

Preceding his talk and slides, there was a covered dish supper.

Ralph Barnum, Cor. Sec'y.

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN AT MT. OLIVE BRETHREN CHURCH PINEVILLE, VIRGINIA

For two weeks, September 11th to 23rd it was my privilege to be the preacher for an evangelistic meeting at the Mt. Olive Brethren Church in Pineville, Virginia. Here are Brethren who have been cultured through the past twenty-five years with excellent preaching, and who are very generous in their expression of appreciation. Bringing the Gospel to these people was indeed one of the high moments of joy in my life. We were thrilled at the splendid attendance during the meetings. The Church was well filled each evening, which was very much appreciated by the evangelist. During the meeting there were a large number of young people in attendance, and we had the understanding that they did so in spite of many community and outside activities. Such loyalty is to be commended.

During the campaign we had 65 decisions for Christ, there were 55 reconsecrations, and 10 were added to the church membership as a direct result of the meeting—a victory for which we praise the Lord.

The meeting was very well advertised under the direction of the pastor, and his publicity committee. The newspaper carried reports of the campaign daily, and the people were informed of the meeting by special letter.

I was graciously received into the homes of the parish and was fed sumptuously at every home where we had

the privilege of a dinner date. During the meeting I lived in the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Lam, where the visiting Evangelists at Mt. Olive have been so graciously entertained through the years. Every kindness was extended to the Evangelist by this family who were so very generous in their hospitality. All of the evening meals were provided by Mr. and Mrs. Lam, who will always be remembered for this special ministry by the visiting Evangelist.

Splendid attendance, excellent interest, enthusiastic spiritual singing, and prayerful support were outstanding in every service.

Music under the very capable direction of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Harmon was an outstanding feature at every service. The special numbers were well chosen and rendered effectively. The faithful choir under the direction of Mrs. Harmon rendered inspiring selections at several of the services. One of the enjoyable features was the violin accompaniment and special solos by Mr. Harmon.

It was also my privilege during this meeting to speak before the five hundred students of the new Montevideo High School and also to the seventh and eighth graders at the Port Republic Grade School. It was a wonderful experience for the evangelist.

Dr. John F. Locke is a very busy minister in the Brethren Church. Besides taking care of this work at Mt. Olive, he is also pastor of the Bethlehem Brethren Church. He is also a member of our College Trustees, and vice president of our National Mission Board. Dr. Locke is certainly loved by his congregations. During our meeting it was a real joy to have a part in the special September 16th "Homecoming festivity" which honored him for his twenty-five years of service as pastor at the Mt. Olive Brethren Church. This special day was also Dr. and Mrs. Locke's twenty-fourth Wedding Anniversary and Mrs. Locke's birthday. It was a very momentous occasion, one which we will long remember. It was a real Christian joy to work with such an outstanding Brethren leader. A considerable amount of calling was done during the campaign, and some splendid results were observed from these personal contacts.

I want again to thank Dr. and Mrs. Locke for their fellowship and the joy of serving Jesus with them. I also want to thank all who performed special services and those who attended so faithfully. I want to thank all members and friends of the Mt. Olive Church for their very generous monetary gift.

May our dear Lord richly bless every one of you and prosper you in His work. I shall long remember the spiritual fellowship of the Mt. Olive Brethren.

Evangelist, J. D. Hamel, South Bend, Ind.

H. D. "BUD" HUNTER ACCEPTS SHIPSHEWANA POSITION

"Bud" Hunter, of North Manchester, Indiana and past president of the National Laymen's Organization of the Brethren church, has accepted the call of the Indiana District to become Superintendent of Grounds, at the Brethren Retreat, Shipshewana, Indiana.

"Bud," and his wife, Helen, who is the Indiana District W. M. S. President, have been operating a chicken farm near North Manchester and have been active members of the North Manchester church. They plan to take up their new duties about the middle of October. Their new address is Shipshewana, Indiana, R. R. 2.

Wedding Announcement

SHOPE-KUNS. On September 9th, at 3:00 P. M., Miss Sue Shope and Mr. Richard Kuns, both of Flora, Indiana exchanged vows before an altar banked with chrysanthemums, palms and candalabras, in the Brethren Church Flora, Indiana. Rev. C. A. Stewart officiated. The new Mrs. Kuns is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Galen Shope of Flora; Mr. Kuns is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Russel Kuns, of Flora.

Mr. Frederick Hinmiller, of the Kokomo College of Music played a selection of bridal airs preceding the ceremony A sister of the bride, Mrs. Wendell Plumb, Corpus Christi Texas, sang several numbers. Mrs. Plum was matron of honor. Miss Janet Klingensmith, Ashland, Ohio, and Miss Margaret Isgrig, Milledgeville, Illinois, were bridesmaids Jim Rowsey, of Ashland, Ohio, was best man. Ushers were Jerry Jordan, Jeris Eikenberry and Wendell Plum

After a short wedding trip the new couple went to Ashland, Ohio, where both are students in Ashland College.

C. A. Stewart.

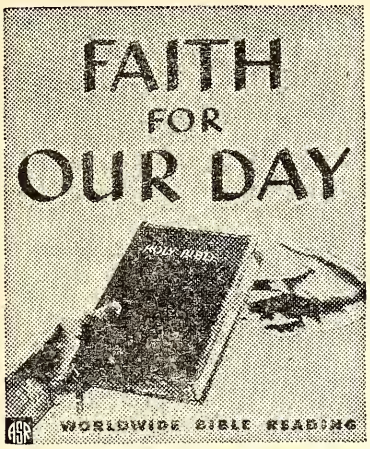
ANDERSON-HOLMES. On September 29th, Betty Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Anderson, and Ray Dean Holmes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Holmes were married by the undersigned at the parsonage at Cameron, W. Va. Betty is a member of the Quiet Dell Brethren Church, and Dean was recently discharged from the U. S. Air Force.

Cecil Bolton, Jr., Pastor.

Support Ashland College and Seminary

with your liberal giving this month

WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS



THIS IS THE THIRTEENTH YEAR of the Worldwide Bible Reading program, when people around the world join in the daily reading of a similar passage of Scriptures that is suggested by the American Bible Society in its annual observance of this program. The reading lists, of which more than 15,000,000 were distributed by the Bible Society last year, are conveniently printed in the form of a bookmark. They are without note or comment which means that a person of any faith may follow them. This year, for the fifth time, the Bible Society will produce the daily reading list in Braille for sightless people.

The program has been endorsed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who, as Honorary Chairman of the National Sponsoring Committee, has said:

"The Bible is endorsed by the ages. Our civilization is build upon its words.

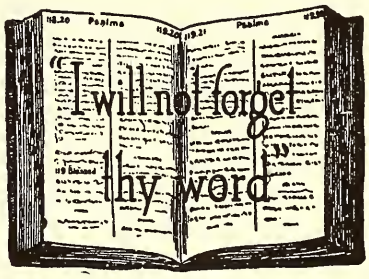
In no other book is there such a collection of inspired wisdom, reality and hope. It describes the condition of man and the promise of man with such power that, through many eras and generations, it has made the mighty humble and has strengthened the weak.

We are grateful to your great voluntary society for distributing the Bible over the past one hundred forty years, without comment or interpretation, throughout the breadth of our land and across the seven seas. You have written The Word upon the doorposts of the world.

I am glad to receive again your list of suggested passages to read from my Bible from Thanksgiving to Christmas."

The theme for the program is annually selected by representatives of over 50 denominations and a poster is designed to illustrate it. The artist of the famous "Head of Christ" and other religious paintings, Warner Sallman, has produced the poster for this year's theme, "The Bible Speaks Today." Thousands of copies of the poster will be produced in foreign languages.

The program includes Universal Bible Sunday, always the second Sunday in December, which this year falls on December 9th. Dr. Eugene A. Nida, secretary for Translations of the American Bible Society, is author of the brochure that is mailed, with other appropriate materials, to Protestant pastors throughout the country. These packets will be mailed to more than 183,000 pastors, more than 12,000 more than in the previous year.



Laid to Rest

BOWSER. Murray Bowser departed this life July 20, 1956, at the age of eighty-three years. He suffered a series of paralytic strokes in addition to complications of his advanced age. He had recovered from the amputation of a limb in January, and was in his usual health up to within a week of his death. Mr. Bowser had been a member of the Glenford Brethren Church. With the organization of The Newark Brethren Church May 15, 1955, he enrolled as one of the twenty-five Charter Members. Surviving are a brother, three daughters and one son and their families. Funeral rites conducted by this Pastor from a Newark Chapel, with burial at Glenford.

William S. Crick.

How About Your Offerings?

THE EDUCATIONAL DAY OFFERING

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

Make checks payable to Ashland College, and send to Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio, and mark on Envelope, "Educational Day Offering."

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

STAND FIRM

Just where you stand in the conflict
There is your place.
Just where you think you are useless
Hide not your face.
God placed you there for a purpose,
Whate'er it be.

Sure He has chosen you for it,
Work loyally.
Gird on your armour; be faithful
At toil or rest.
Whate'er it be; never doubting,
God's way is best.

Out in the field or on pickett,
Stand firm and true;
This is the work which the Master
Gives you to do.

—Selected.

DANIEL had sincere convictions of right and wrong (Dan. 1:8). Let us "dare to be a Daniel" in all of Daniel's characteristics: courteous (Dan. 1.8-12); attractive (1:4-9); temperate (1:8); studious (1:17-19); courageous (2:13-16; 6:7-11); humble (2:30; 9:7-20); faithful (6:4); Bible student (9:2; 11:13); prayerful (2:18; 6:10; 9:4; 12:8); honored (2:48; 6:23; 12:13).

Worthwhile convictions are bound to be tested. That is true of God-fearing convictions on diet (Dan. 1:12, 13); convictions on a constant prayer life (Dan. 6:7, 10); of refusal to compromise in worship (Dan. 3:15-18); convictions in declaring the whole counsel of God (Dan. 4:19, 24; 5:22, 23).

The world will make men suffer for their convictions (Heb. 11:24-26). The world will tempt men of convictions to sin, and will then punish them for standing true to God (Gen. 39:20). Time and again Paul refused to waver (2 Cor. 11:24-27). Thus Paul paid a high price for his convictions. So did John the Baptist (Matt. 14: 4-10). People who live up to right standards are often the targets of slander and defamation.

But those who suffer for convictions have a conscience inviolate (Acts 20:26). They can face the end of life with an uncondemned heart and a happy prospect with God (2 Tim. 4:6-8). God will stand by those who stand by Him (Gen. 39:21-24; Dan. 9:21, 21-23).

"Gracious Father, guard Thy children
From the foe's destructive power;
Save, O save them, Lord from falling
In this dark and trying hour!
Thou wilt surely prove Thy people,
All our graces must be tried;
But Thy Word illumes our pathway,
And in God we still confide."

God has made great promises to those who suffer fo right convictions (Matt. 5:10-12). Crossbearing fo Christ's sake shall not go unrewarded (2 Tim. 2:12) The soul winner shall have fruit for his conviction (Psalm 126:5, 6). Men of convictions shall some da judge the world and fallen angels (1 Cor. 6:3, 4).

It is only men of strong faith who can turn others t God (Dan. 4:37; 6:25-27). People who compromised o sacrificed their convictions are a disgrace to this world Such is the weak-kneed, sinful Herod who beheaded Joh the Baptist (Matt. 14:8, 9); Ananias and Sapphira, wh lied to God and were stricken dead before the apostle (Acts 5:1-5); Demas, who forsook his convictions for a easy life in this world (2 Tim. 4:10).

"Stand on thy feet, ye valiants of the Lord!
These times require thy life, thy constancy;
Steadfast and sure, equipped with God's own Word,
March forth to battle,—loyal, brave and free!"

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for October 21, 1956

GOD'S COMMAND TO TEACH

Lesson: Deut. 6:1-9, 20-25

THOSE WHO HAVE been **taught** ought to become teach ers. If God's Message of Life is to be proclaimed to al the world it will only be done in this way. Jesus use this method of reaching the world. He **taught** the dis ciples in order that they might in turn become **teacher** Years after the Master had ascended, John the Belove employed this means: "That which we have seen an heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fel lowship with us" (I John 1:3). John had been **taught** therefore, he became a **teacher.**

To the Children of Israel came this command fro God: "And these words, which I command thee this da shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them dil gently unto thy children . . . " Emphasis was given t proper spiritual teaching and training of children. **Fro whence cometh the philosophy of the day that declares chi dren are to be permitted free expressions of ideas an actions?** Certainly not from the Bible! Here is God's a swer to Juvenile Delinquency. Responsibility is laid the feet of the parents to properly instruct their childre in the knowledge of the Lord.

In Deuteronomy 6:1 God desired to teach His peop Israel. "Now these are the commandments . . . whic the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that might do them.. . . " They were to be **taught** in ord that they might **do.** Right **teaching** is to result in rig **conduct.** Not only this, but right teaching is meant produce reverential fear of the LORD God. And he w

is taught of God, and responds to teaching by obeying that which is taught, will find he not only has the fear and awe of God in his heart, but the blessing of God in his life. For the promise was given: "That it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee."

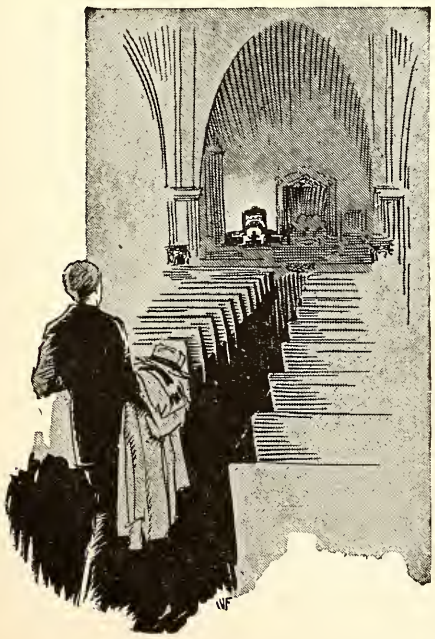
In the Old Testament, material prosperity was evidence of right relationsip with God. In this dispensation God hath promised spiritual prosperity. When the smile of Divine Favor is upon your life, the blessing of God will be manifest in your heart.

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

The Word of God should find lodgment in our hearts. Then will we be eager to teach His Word to our children and friends. Wherever we go, and whatever we do, we will strive to obey Him, for His Word will become the guiding principle of our lives.

You who have been **taught** of God—have you become a **teacher** to those **untaught**? This is what Jesus intended when He said to His followers: "Go then and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to practice all the commands that I have given you" (Wms.—Matt. 28:19).

God forbid that He should have to rebuke some with these words: "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one **teach** you . . . " (Heb. 5:12). The ability, then, to teach others is evidence of spiritual maturity. May it be said of the Church of Jesus Christ today what was said concerning the Early Church: "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to **teach** and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:42).



Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

MISCELLANY

Concerning Workers' Conferences

A SALESMAN does not skip a sales meeting because he has had ten years' experience. A football player does not break training because he is the star of the team. Auto mechanics are returning to the factories to learn about the new 1957 models. Doctors use the very latest drugs at their disposal.

Can officers and teachers afford to consider negligently and carelessly the one channel through which they can best serve? **Sunday schools are hinged on the effectiveness of their workers' conferences**; some are hung because of the ineffectiveness of them.

Overheard

"I wish I had more time for visitation." It was a teacher of junior girls who made the wish.

"You have fifteen minutes every week that you are not using," the superintendent reminded her. Then she went on to explain, "Most of the girls arrive fifteen minutes early every Sunday morning and are without supervision."

Are you wasting precious minutes each Sunday by not meeting your pupils who come early? **Remember, Sunday school begins the instant the first pupil arrives.**

Temperance

Dr. Karl Menninger, noted psychiatrist, says that **5 million alcoholics in the United States constitute the nation's largest mental health problem.** "Every day we see horrifying examples of men and women who drink up every penny they own and make serious critical errors in judgment that affect you and me. It is a problem which is taking a tremendous mental, social, and physical toll."

Study carefully, teacher, the Sunday school lesson for October 14. Will it be just "another temperance lesson," will you make it what it ought to be—education for abstinence?

The Booming Baby Business

The U. S. Census Bureau says our country's population will reach 170 or 175 million by 1960. (Compare this number with the 1950 census figure of 151,672,000.) It is quite possible that **35 million babies** will be born between 1950 and 1960.

There will be 40 percent more teen-agers in the sixties than in 1950. This figure doesn't depend on future birth rates; these young people have already been born!

Your city, your town, your neighborhood has many people who need the Christian instruction, guidance, and help which only the Sunday school can give. What are you doing about them?

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

B. Y. GOALS TO SHOOT AT . . . AND HIT

1956-1957

1. Send in one Sunday evening Brethren Youth Crusader offering to National Brethren Youth each month as your part in the budget.
2. A Brethren Youth delegate to National B. Y. Conference and District Conference.
3. One member attending summer camp for each 10 members of your B. Y. Crusaders.
4. Four executive meetings and four social meetings during the year.
5. At least one public service (preferably on Youth Sunday in May).
6. A lesson on each of three of the following:
   a. Stewardship
   b. Total Abstinence
   c. Conducting Personal Devotions
   d. How to Win Another to Christ
   e. Brethren Emphasis
7. Seniors and Intermediates: a lesson on dating (Boy and Girl Relationships).
   Juniors: a lesson on Personal Relationships (How to get along with each other).
   Suggestion: Use a panel or forum with Scripture verses to support your views.
8. Group participation in the National Brethren Youth project ($6,666.66 for Ambassadors and Sarasota).
9. A report of your activities sent to the National B. Y. office in Ashland at least two times a year (include pictures if possible).
10. 50% of your membership in attendance at one specific service each week of local evangelistic services.
11. The **Brethren Youth Magazine** in the homes of 50% of your membership.
12. Every Brethren Youth in your church carrying a Brethren Youth Membership Card and working to enlarge the Brethren Youth Booster Club.

NOTE: Banner Society—Meet 10 out of 12 goals.

Honor Society—Meet all 12 goals.

GOAL DIGGERS

This year's Brethren Youth Goals, which are printed on this page, are largely the result of the work done by the Brethren Youth Goals Committee at National Conference. Chairman Lois Berkshire and her committee have come up with some worthwhile suggestions for all B. Y. Crusaders and each of you should begin right now to meet as many as possible.

Your society will not be a Banner or an Honor Society unless you begin "digging" at these Goals immediately. They are designed to help in the organization of your local B. Y. C. group and also to guide your own personal spiritual life. If enough of you will work hard at meeting these goals, Brethren Youth everywhere will expand. Your meetings will be better, our project will go over the top, and added financial support will enable us to serve the entire program better.

Study these goals carefully, figure out how your group can meet them and become a banner society, and go out and get all your friends to be BRETHREN YOUTH GOAL DIGGERS!

The latest issue of the BRETHREN YOUTH MAGAZINE is in the mail. Get-a-hold of a copy and keep up to-date with the latest news and pictures about B. Y. activities. Then subscribe to this small, but mighty, magazine by sending $1.00 to Brethren Youth, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio. You won't want to miss any future issues.

The present issue contains news stories from Ashland, Lanark, Maurertown, Lost Creek, Fremont, Johnstown, Ohio Conference and many others. Get your copy coming to your home soon. SUBSCRIBE!

ASHLAND to WATERLOO.....via UDELL

It was very helpful to see several past friends and meet some new ones at the Central District Conference in Udell, Iowa on September 28th and 29th. The opportunity to speak about the youth work in the district was much appreciated. The Conference theme concerned the "spiritual condition" of the Christian in several aspects. This seemed to me to be most deserving for all of us to consider, especially Brethren Youth.

NEXT YEAR the Central District Conference is going to be held in Lanark and preliminary plans are now being laid to have some special youth features on the week end as a part of the conference program. The youth in Illinois and Iowa should plan now to watch for more announcements about these things that are being done for them. Also, something was said about SPRING CAMP in Milledgeville next March. It looks as though there will be plenty of activity for the Brethren Youth of the Central District. SUPPORT YOUR PROGRAM, KIDS!

Then, leaving Udell, your Youth Director traveled to Waterloo to fill the pulpit for Rev. A. T. Ronk, who was delivering the Sunday morning message at Central Conference. I really enjoyed this visit to the place where Napoleon once was (apologies to Dr. Bixler) and was glad for the opportunity to meet with the B. Y. Crusaders and talk over plans for the coming year.

It was a long ride home (610 miles) but the pleasant memories of Waterloo will remain much longer. Back here in Ashland I can claim to be an experienced "dairyman," but Mr. and Mrs. Glade Miller of Waterloo know that all I did was to bring the cows up from the pasture at milking time.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

BRETHREN WOMEN AT WORK THROUGH THE W. M. S.

Scripture: II Timothy 1:3-9

HERE WE ARE TOGETHER AGAIN at General eral Conference, a high point in the lives of Bretheen women, for it is both a beginning and an ending. Most of us at this time bring to a conclusion this year's chapter in the book marked, "History of Brethren Women." We write in a large hand the closing words, 'In His Service," sign our names and place this story upon the shelf labelled "The Woman's Missionary Society of The Brethren Church." There it will stand for all eyes to see, through all the ages to come, for it is written with purposeful hands: with the determined and impulsive hand of our young women, with the firm and guiding hand of our ladies of middle years, and with the wise and gentle hand of our elder sisters. Yes, everyone of us has written words, a phrase here and there in this book of our endeavor. Some of these pages have been written by the hands of those women who this past year stepped across the threshold of the door marked death, into a new day, to write a new chapter in a new life, that awaits our coming some other afternoon.

But now let us examine together this chapter we have written together this past year. Is it a good one? Is it full of praise and love to God? Do the words, service to others, greater missionary endeavor, daily prayer and practice of faith, reading and studying the Word, do these phrases blink brightly before our searching eyes like a neon sign? Or are there dark passages, blurred words and blank pages in our volume marked W. M. S.?

Well, whatever has been our personal contribution, whether we write finis with a sigh of regret or a sigh of satisfaction, nevertheless we must bid this chapter goodbye. For a new and wonderful, a great and effectual door has opened before all of us in the W. M. S. this coming year. At the entrance stands the Saviour saying "Follow Me." And we're going through this door to new opportunities, aren't we? We're going forward with high hearts and willing hands and the determination to fight the good fight of faith. We're marching on together closed in the whole armor of the Christian woman: the breast-plate of righteousness, the banner of truth, the shield of faith: our feet shod with the gospel of peace, on our heads the helmet of salvation and in our hands the sword of the Spirit, which is the very own Word of God, of which you and I are stewards.

Now, what is it that calls us to such service? What is it that causes Christian women to come together in an organization such as the W. M. S.? Well, maybe you don't know why you sought membership in this group. Perhaps you think it was a happy accident or the natural sequence of events of joining a church and therefore its auxiliaries. Maybe you think the hand of a friend brought you to this moment. Oh, no my friends. It's a much older story than that and a much older call than the one you hear here today.

For the Lord Himself called you and me. He put the greatest gift of all within your heart and mine—the gift of "wanting" to serve and learn of Him, and He first did it through our Mother, Eve. He first called you and me way back there at the Gates of Paradise when He pronounced judgment upon womankind and at the same time blessed her by appointing her guardian of the mystery of life. For in Eve lay all that was ever to come! In Eve lay the witness and testimony of Christ Himself, for God said "the seed of the woman shall bruise the head of the serpent." And Eve believed God and kept these words in her heart. Then in the young Jewish girl, Mary, God fulfills this promise He first made to Eve. For truly Christ was "the seed of only the woman" for He came into the world as no other child, and truly He is the Son of God through whom all men may have eternal life. So in God's words to Eve and in the motherhood of Mary did God bless all His daughters in a most wonderful way and call everyone of us in love to His purpose.

The world has always said jokingly of women "We do not understand them." No matter—we do not always understand ourselves. But we heed the call within our heart and we follow it to do impossible things. For our God is the God of the impossible and not of the possible or the limited little things we can see and do alone. Look for instance to Mary Magdalene. She stood weeping before Christ, thinking He is the gardener, and crying out, "Where have they laid my Lord? Tell me and I will take Him away." Of course she lacked the physical strength to do this thing but Mary with a woman's love forgets a woman's weaknesses, for a woman's love never stops at impossibilities. For example, remember the paying for this chapel building by the W. M. S.? Remember the great amount of prayers and money we brought to our African project? Consider the offering, faith and prayer we again shall bring to the South American work this Friday at our luncheon.

So we can stand here today, not particularly strong physically, not especially brilliant. In reality very ordinary women are we, but we can do extraordinary things! The Holy Spirit that dwells within us urges us on, sustains and strengthens us every minute of our life.

So let us all this day, standing beside one another and in the presence of our church go boldly to the throne of grace, individually, yet always together and say, "Lord, here am I—weak in body—limited in mind but full of the desire to serve thee well. Here am I, Lord, in answer to thy call, true to the faith first shown by Eve. Here am I, Lord. Send me."

And you know something my dears? He will! He most certainly will! Won't you let Him use you today? Won't you let Him work with you this year through your W. M. S.? Yes, I know you will.

Mrs. Frank Morrison,
Dayton, Ohio.

(Delivered at General Conference W. M. S. Session on Wednesday.)

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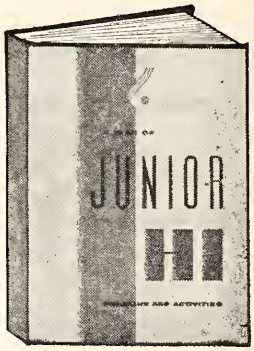
Worship for Teen-age and Youth

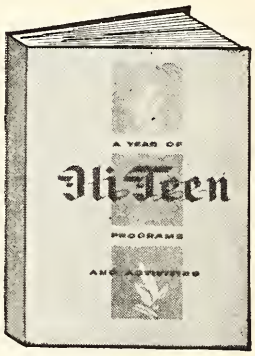
A YEAR OF JUNIOR-HI PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



Here are 52 programs, fresh and appealing, plus numerous parties, banquets and other special activities as well as programs for such occasions as Easter, guest night, New Year's and installation of officers. Each program has a unique idea for presentation to make it more realistic. For instance, this sports-conscious group will be delighted with the basketball tournament which lasts for 4 weeks, and baseball games. Some other topics are: Ring Out the Old, Ring In the New, How to Pray, Have a Heart, and Making a Choice. The size is 8½ x 11 inches and each book is perforated for ease in distributing program material. Also featured are a number of clever, really different publicity ideas.

No. 3372 ..... $2.95

A YEAR OF HI-TEEN PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



An unexcelled book of sparkling program material including parties, banquets, programs for special occasions, and projects for high-school and college-age groups. These 52 programs have been especially planned so that several individuals will participate each week, thereby creating more interest and activity. Included are inventory tests, buzz groups, role play situations, discussion check-lists and many others. Some of the program titles are: What's for This Year, Help Wanted, It's Your Life, Party-line Prejudice, Hall of Greatness, Search the Scriptures, Walking With God, and Family Forum. Each program has a suggested poster or other publicity. Perforated sheets for easy distribution.

No. 3373 ..... $2.95

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INTERMEDIATE EXPRESSIONAL SERVICES

By Nevada Miller Whitwell. 52 programs, each containing complete poster suggestions, choral and instrumental music, talks, stories, stunts, Scriptural readings, prayers, etc. A full year of program material for Intermediates that is refreshingly different.

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New idea for teen-age worship programs by **Nevada Miller Whitwell.** 50 devotional themes are taken from 50 well-known travel spots, as London, Paris, etc. Illustrated, 216 pages.

No. 2711 ..... $2.25

On all book orders please add ten cents for postage.

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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How Great is your Vision of Service?

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

Call upon me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.—Jer. 33:3.

VOL. LXXVIII October 20, 1956 No. 41

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

MAURERTOWN, VIRGINIA. Brother E. L. Miller, pastor of our Maurertown church, who was stricken recently with a heart attack, is now out of the oxygen tent and is able to sit up in bed for about 15 minutes a day. Let us continue to uphold our brother at the throne of grace.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Brother Joseph Shultz reports a Sunday School Rally Day attendance of 174, which is a new high, the previous high being 145.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Professor R. G. Mowery was the guest speaker at the Wayne Heights Rally Day service on September 30th.

Brother N. V. Leatherman reports attendances of 96 for the Rally Day Sunday School hour, 114 for the church service, and 76 for the Homecoming service in the evening. Fifty members of the church responded to the roll call of the membership at the evening hour.

Brother Leatherman calls attention to the fact that during the week prior to their Rally Day and Homecoming, 16 members of the church visited the entire membership of the church, encouraging the members to attend the coming services.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. The Third Brethren Church was host, on October 4th, to the Laymen, W. M. S., and Ministers of the Pennsylvania District in their respective and combined Rallies.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. A "Builder's Committee and Workers'" dinner meeting was held the evening of October 11th. Speakers at the affair, which included the Official Board, the Building Committee, the Special Finance Committee, and the complete Visitation Committee, were Rev. Paul Olinger, and Rev. J. Ray Klingensmith.

ASHLAND, OHIO. PARK STREET BRETHREN. The annual "College Fellowship Supper," for all Brethren and students attending the Park Street church, was held the evening of October 10th. Charles Munson was in charge of the program.

A "Missal Stand" (Bible holder) for the altar table, was dedicated recently. The Stand, a gift of the Truth Seekers Class, was fashioned by and in the woodworking shop of one of the class members, Rush Rosenberry. It is of walnut and mahogany woods. Attached to the

(Continued on Page 6)

COMING EVENTS

NORTHEASTERN OHIO
JUNIOR B. Y. C. RALLY
Saturday, November 3, 1956
for ages 9-12
SMITHVILLE, OHIO
Group singing, election of officers, special m sic, recreation, offering; film, "The Pilgrims."
35c registration fee for noon lunch
Please send your reservations by Oct. 30th t
Mrs. William McConahay,
Rt. 1, Smithville, Ohio.

NORTH GEORGETOWN, OHIO. Rally Day—Octob 21st—Rev. Donald Rowser, Pastor.

ARDMORE, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—beginni October 22nd—Rev. Floyd Sibert, Evangelist; Rev. A thur J. Tinkel, Pastor.

GRATIS, OHIO. Homecoming—October 28th—R John F. Burton, Pastor.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Revival Services—October 28 through November 11th—Rev. Virgil E. Meyer, Evang list; Rev. L. V. King, Pastor.

DAYTON, OHIO. HILLCREST BRETHREN. Rally D —October 28th—Rev. Percy C. Miller, Pastor.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Homecoming—October 21 —Professor Charles Munson, speaker at 2:00 P. M. s vice; Rev. William H. Anderson, Pastor .

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Revival Meeting—Novemb 4-11—Rev. C. A. Stogsdill, Evangelist; Rev. Bruce Shanholtz, Pastor.

FLORA, INDIANA. Evangelistic Services—Beginni November 11th—Rev. N. V. Leatherman, Evangelist; R C. A. Stewart, Pastor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. Wayne Heights Brethr Evangelist Services—November 4-11—Rev. Phil Lers Evangelist; Rev. N. Victor Leatherman, Pastor.

(Continued on Page 6)

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

Capitalizing

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN a better time for the spread of the Gospel than now. The opportunity to spread the Gospel has never been greater than now. The need has never been greater than now. The methods have never been better than now.

What are we doing about it?

"Look unto the fields, white unto the harvest." Look at the scarcity of workers. What are we doing about it?

The Lord has set before us an open door—opportunity to train our own youth in our local Sunday Schools, in our homes, by use of up-to-date methods and materials—to bring them to a saving knowledge of Christ. In this open door, there is opportunity to reach the millions of boys and girls who have never seen the inside of a church, let alone have come under the church's teaching.

Mens' hearts, as predicted in the scriptures, are on the verge of "failing them for fear." The status of world affairs is such that people are really fearing. We must capitalize on this state of uncertainty and show to them, and tell them of the Christ who removes sin, doubts and fears. We must tell them of the peace of mind and heart that Christ can bring to them.

Right now, many who live near us, Brethren, whether we sense it or not, are of a weariness and heaviness of heart. They know that sinister forces threaten to wipe out their shaky security. They know that uncertainty exists on every hand. What a wonderful opportunity for us to step in and tell them of a Christ who conquers fear, doubt and uncertainty.

Most of us spend time in church on Sundays. We hear messages from our pulpits, we sit in Sunday School classes and study the word of the Lord. There is a sense of satisfaction which tells us we have done well.

But have we?

Did Jesus stop when He had prayed? Did He cease His work after He had attended worship? Did the fact that He was doing the Father's will cause Him to ignore the desperate needs of those around Him? Had that been the case, there would have been no feeding of the hungry, no "Peace be still," no Calvary for the redemption of mens' souls.

Then what right do we have to feel that we have done well when we have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord and worshipped there of a Sunday? Is not the crying need of humanity around us ringing in our ears night and day?

Well, then, what can we do?

All of us, at some time or other, have felt the comfort of one who spoke the right word or did the right act at a time when we were sore distressed. In the name of Christ, our Savior, if we can do nothing more for those around us in trouble, we can speak a word of peace, or perform an act of mercy that will be the right word or act at the right time.

We have seen hearts, otherwise smug, secure and self-sufficient, that in times of trouble were "approachable" with a single word of Gospel truth.

It is time, with all the modern facilities and opportunities, that we Christians, in daily walk must "exude" the Gospel message. Hearts, at home and abroad, are hungry. Let us feed them with the Bread of Life, even Jesus our Lord.

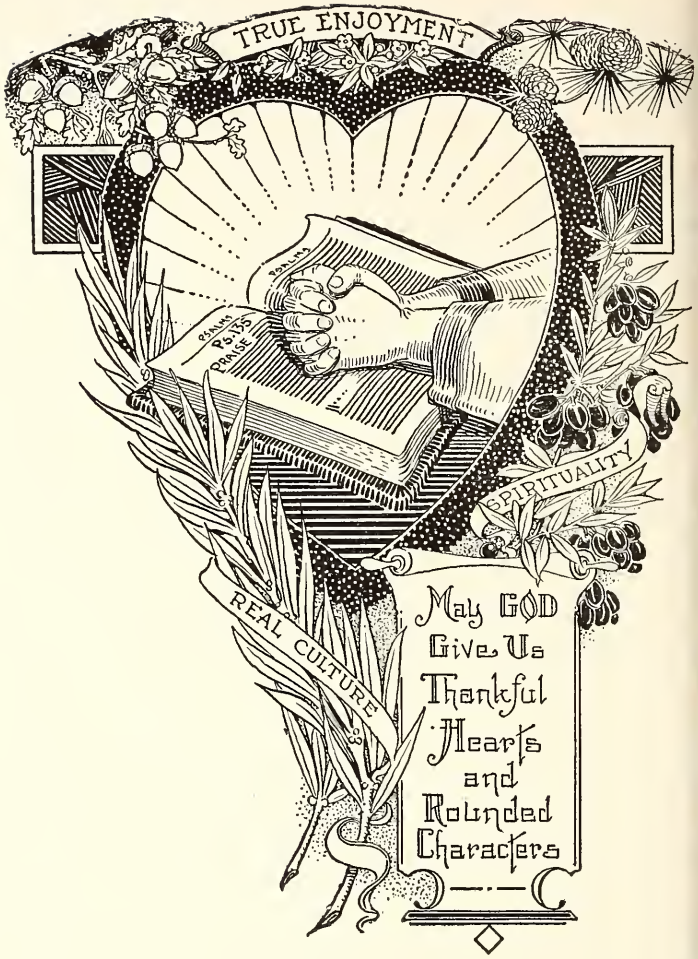
W.S.B.

BRETHREN ANNUAL NEXT WEEK

NEXT WEEK is our scheduled date for the new 1956-57 Brethren Annual. On this, we have been working, as material has been made available, since General Conference time. It is all set in type and practically ready to go, waiting only the officiary of the Mid-West District, whose Conference is now in session as this issue goes to press. The Annual may be a little late reaching you due to the increased printing operations on it.

"The Brethren Annual" replaces the issue of the Evangelist for Oct. 27th. The next regular Evangelist will come to you under date of Nov. 3rd.

We Worship Together



Rev. H. Francis Berkshire

THERE IS MUCH SENSE in the words of Carlyle who said, "What greater calamity can fall upon a nation than the loss of worship."

Although there is a present emphasis on Christian education, the matter of worship has been neglected by most churches. Education for worship has not been emphasized, and too few have been taught the purpose, aims and objectives and elements of the worship service. There is little wonder then, that our worship services are poorly attended and that youth and adults migrate home after the Sunday School session, failing to remain for the worship service. Furthermore, some worship services give the impression of entertaining a congregation; they are "showy" and many progress to the extent of being amusing.

Worship is a distinct element of Christian education and a well planned educational program will recognize this fact. We teach our pupils to read the Bible, to attend Sunday School faithfully, to pray, to sing the beloved hymns of the church, but we fail to instruct them in the prope art of worship. We fail to insist that our churc leaders and Sunday School leaders set the exam ple of faithful attendance in the worship servic and we also neglect to plan each service that may bring a challenge to men and glory to Go

Should the sense of worship be lost we can b certain of two results: 1. It will be a calamit for the Christian church. 2. The church and i leaders will have been negligent in the matter c instructing for proper worship.

The term "worship" is an ambiguous term one is apt to think in either of two directior when the term is mentioned. He may think c "form" or "ceremony" by which a feeling is e pressed. Or, he may think of honor or reve ence appropriately directed toward a supreme b ing. However, both are related to the term wo ship.

This term is a combination of two words fro the Anglo-Saxon language, "weorth-scipe." It

Editor's Note: Worship, in its purest form, is a beauiful thing. It is the communion of the soul with its Iaker and Savior. To accomplish this act of worship, here must of necessity, be the mechanics of the devoional hour, or of the worship service.

Because the spiritual life of the individual is encourged, or discouraged, by the mechanical conduct of the hurch worship hour, there is need today for instruction nd suggestions on the proper conduct of the worship ervice.

The proper conduct of the worship service in our hurches can result in joy and peace and challenge; a loser fellowship with God and with one another. A eautiful, "well-ordered" service can bring a lasting spirtual glow, and an eternal victory in the hearts of men.

It is with this thought in mind that we have sought, nd have secured this series of articles on the "Art of Vorship," as it relates to our church services. This week 'e present the first of three articles by Brother Francis erkshire on the general subject, "We Worship Toether."

We would suggest that each pastor, each church leadr, each service participant and each parishioner read, tudy and meditate on these articles as they appear. 'ou, and your church's services will be benefitted therey. W. S. B.

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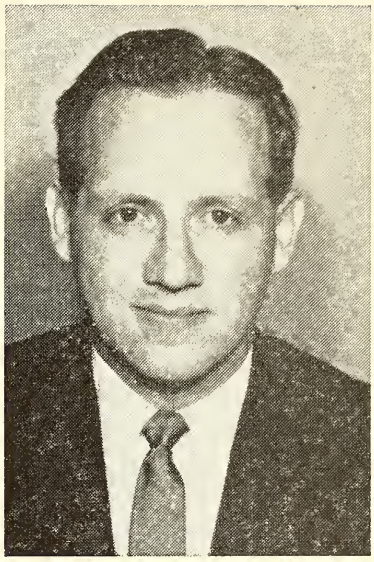
ranslated into our English vocabulary as "wor-ıy-ship." This word has an interesting evolution. 'radition tells us that it was fashioned with refrence to the ships that would return to the ıglo-Saxon ports ladened with supplies from ew and conquered territories. The ships that rought valuable supplies were treated most honrably, and homage was given to the crew-memers. While there is no word in the Greek or Herew language which is totally comparable to our ord "worship," the words in these languages exress the meaning of "bowing down" or "doing beisance" to a person or thing. For example, enesis 22:5 would read, "I and the lad will go onder and bow self down." And Luke 14:10b ould read, " . . . then shalt thou have glory or steem in the presence of them that sit at meat ith thee." The latter two words, "glory" and esteem," have the same root of our common nglish word "doxology."

From this we gather that the word worship ıeans the recognition or the merit of a person r thing. It is **appreciation.** With reference to ır religion it is the active side of our religious ehavior.

There is a natural impulse in man to worship. od has implanted this impulse in man. Here e see that Christian education must assume the



REV. H. FRANCIS BERKSHIRE

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major responsibility of teaching man the correct concepts, meanings and forms, and expressions in the worship of God through Jesus Christ.

THE PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF A WORSHIP SERVICE

The first worship service recorded is in Genesis 4:3-5. Two brothers came to worship God. Each one brought an offering to God. Cain brought "of the fruit of the ground." Abel brought "of the firstlings of his flock and the fat thereof." Both offerings seemed to be of equal value but one was accepted and the other was rejected. Why? One showed an appreciation and the other did not. One gave a sacrificial offering; the other did not. One showed the attitudes of humility, gratitude, reverence; the other did not truly worship. Abel focused "Godward"' as Clarice Bowman states in her book **Restoring Worship.** Cain focused "Cain-ward." Abel opened his heart to God; Cain wanted the imprint of God upon his heart but was not willing to open his heart to him. Abel showed a sense of his stewardship of his total life; he gave of his best. Cain did not. Abel **found** God as he worshiped, while Cain "thought" he had found God. This contrast in worship shows us that Abel reaped a rich experience as a result of seeking God, But Cain rebelled against God's desires, and suffered.

From this ancient worship service we may draw many conclusions. Among these being, that God instituted worship of Himself. He taught man to

(Continued on Page 8)

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

holder is a special stone of historical interest to Brethren. A stone from the foundation of one of the very early churches, the Klein Meeting House, located twenty miles from Germantown, and just outside the town of Vernfield, Penna., has been affixed to the underside of the holder. This Klein church was one of the very first, if not the first, founded by Peter Becker, the leader of the first emigrants from the mother Church in Germany in 1719.

The Park Street Church topped its Furnace Fund Goal of $3,000 with a total offering of $3278.

ASHLAND, OHIO. GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN. Revival Services have been in progress at the Garber Memorial church. These began October 7th and will conclude on the 21st. Brother Cecil Johnson, of Manteca, California, is the Evangelist.

NEWARK, OHIO. Definite gains are being made at Newark, as Brother W. S. Crick notes a record Rally Day attendance of 41, which was 7 more than the largest attendance in two and one half years.

The Newark bulletins notes that this new mission church now has over $3000 in their Building Fund.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Brother William Anderson reports "300 present for entire program" (Sunday School and Rally Day Program) on September 30th.

BRYAN, OHIO. Brother E. M. Riddle was the Rally Day and Homecoming speaker at the Bryan church on October 14th.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates notes that even though the erection of their Educational Annex was held up waiting a supply of bricks, they hoped to be able to move into the building at the beginning of 1957.

William Boyer was the guest speaker in the North Manchester church on October 7th.

ELKHART, INDIANA. Two new members were received by baptism the evening of September 23rd.

FLORA, INDIANA. The Flora church was host to the W. M. S. District Rally on October 11th.

WARSAW, INDIANA, DUTCHTOWN BRETHREN. Brother J. D. Hamel was the speaker at the afternoon Homecoming services of the Dutchtown Brethren on October 14th.

SPECIAL: Brother C. Y. Gilmer writes as follows: "Dr. Joseph Shultz is to hold Sunday School Institutes and Work Shops in the churches of the Northern California District, October 29th through November 4th, under the auspices of the Northern California District Conference, and the National Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church." (Brother Gilmer adds that Brother Shultz, while he was serving as Field Representative of the NSSB was unable to effect a time when he could render this service to the Northern California District, but that he reserved some time from his present Washington, D. C. pastorate to perform this service to the California churches.)

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 2)

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. Week End Bible Conferen —October 26-28; Friday and Saturday evenings, 7:3 Sunday, 10:30 and 7:00—Speaker, Rev. Don J. Kenyo Instructor in Greek and Bible, Ft. Wayne, Bible Colleg Rev. William H. Anderson, Pastor.

ASHLAND, OHIO. Park Street Brethren. Evangelist Meeting—November 12-18—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Evang list; Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, Pastor.

NEW PARIS, INDIANA. Special Services—Octob 28th through November 4th—Dr. John F. Locke, Speake Dr. E. M. Riddle, Pastor.

HOWE, INDIANA. Brighton Chapel Brethren. Hom coming Day—October 28th—Rev. Smith F. Rose, Past

ATTENTION: OHIO BRETHREN

We have received word that Linwood Park, Vermilli Ohio, will be available for our use for the 1957 Distr Conference. The dates are July 11-14, 1957. Robert K linger, 1234 23rd St., N. W., Canton 9, Ohio, will ag be handling the housing arrangements. We will, at later date, give you more details about securing roo etc.

W. S. Benshoff, Moderator

We would like to remind all Ohio District Brethren the request of the District Camp Site Committee for Churches of the District to make some expression as whether or not they would favor the purchase and velopment of a District Camp site of their own. Det on this appeared recently in The Evangelist, and in letter mailed to all Ohio churches. Your prompt re to Robert L. Hoffman, Smithville, Ohio, will enable Camp Site Committee to know the mind of the Chur.

Ohio District Camp Site Committee

PASTOR NEEDED

Due to the sudden serious illness of Rev. E. J. Bl he was compelled to resign as pastor of the Mu e church. If the Lord speaks to some Brethren Minister o be our pastor, please write to:

Mrs. Rosa Richey,
1321 East First St
Muncie, Indiana

FULL TIME PASTOR DESIRED

We would like to hear from a Brethren Minister o would be interested in a full time pastorate at U l. Address:

Mrs. H. B. Spreng, Church Secretar
Udell, Iowa.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

THANKSGIVING LITERATURE

will be sent to pastors or church secretaries about November 1. If you want the number of bulletins, envelopes or other materials changed, please write to the Missionary Board office to that effect before November 1.

OUR NEW QUARTERS

The offices of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church are now located at 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio (next door to the previous location). These new quarters are far more adequate to our needs, containing space for files, mimeograph, literature and supplies. There will also be more room for board meetings, conferences with missionary candidates, etc.

Visitors are welcome to come in and inspect our new headquarters. Don't forget—530 College Avenue!

Incidentally—

while we are in the business of giving reminders, note the following: All funds and offerings for foreign missions, home missions, Ten Dollar Club, Lost Creek, Thanksgiving and Easter offerings should be sent to this office—530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

Checks for all of these should be made to the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church.

OUR GOAL: **Two Thousand Ten Dollar Club Members**

BETWEEN TIMES

Many people have discovered that by using "between times" to good advantage, one may profit tremendously; for example, if you spend your time wisely while waiting for a train, in a doctor's office, or in some other unoccupied period. you may reap a great return over a length of time. Entire courses of study have been covered, foreign languages learned and other goals of learning reached by utilizing such intervals which might otherwise be simply "between times."

Our Board is faced with a somewhat similar situation. Between General Conference time and Thanksgiving, very few offerings are sent in for missions, partly because churches send these offerings following Thanksgiving and Easter only. (Some churches, however, give quarterly, on the budget plan.)

Our work, naturally, must go on twelve months of the year, regardless of this lean period. We must continue to pay salaries to missionaries and to home mission pastors. We keep on promoting, trying to build churches and give aid to missionary candidates. In brief, from September 1 to December 1, or about such time, our program goes on, but our income practically stops; consequently, these become pretty lean days; we sometimes actually scrape the bottom of the barrel.

Right now, with the great building program going on at Lost Creek, a new home mission work in operation at Sarasota, and other new activities—all things you want to see accomplished—we are at the bottom of the barrel, and even below. To be quite frank—we do need money **before Thanksgiving offerings begin coming in.**

Pastors, church treasurers, members (anyone who holds the purse strings), if you have mission funds in your church treasury, don't hold them for a more propitious time! There is no more propitious time! **We need them now!**

We are not wasting mission funds; we are using them —as you have asked that they be spent—but ten dollars or twenty will not go the distance they would twenty years ago. Expenses have kept up with the march of time, but our giving hasn't always kept up the pace. Let's gear our giving to the new super-highway-traveling standard, and let's **do it now** and use this **"between time."**

NEW TEN DOLLAR CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

are beginning to come in as a result of our renewed effort. The question has been asked concerning the first payment to be made by these members. This explanation seems to be in order:

New members are urged to send in their ten dollars (or more if they wish) when they indicate willingness to join. It is not necessary to wait for a notice to be sent; in fact, it will be a great help to the Missionary Board office if new members will respond with immediate payment, not waiting for an individual letter or notice. Notices were sent out to members this past summer and new members come under that notice.

New Members, simply send in your ten dollars (or more) to indicate your willingness to join; then notices will be sent you individually when the next call is made.

—The Ten Dollar Club Committee.

SPEAKING OF ORCHIDS—

We weren't, really, but we are now. A huge bouquet of these fabulous flora should be presented to Reverend F. C. Vanator for his excellent service in helping to organize and promote the Brethren Church at Sarasota.

In line for special commendation also are Mrs. Vanator, the Mohlers, Reverend Lemert and many others who gave so generously of their time and efforts to make this dream of a Brethren Church become a reality. In fact, all of the Brethren at Sarasota—both the visitors and permanent residents have done a remarkably fine job of supporting this new church.

On September 13 the Lichtenberger family arrived in Sarasota to begin a full-time program of pastoral activity. We will all be looking for encouraging reports and signs of a growing church. Our best wishes, Brethren at Sarasota, and FULL SPEED AHEAD!

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

(Continued from Page 5)

worship Him in the early days of the history of mankind. The Old Testament is full of this testimony.

Furthermore, God deserves our gratitude through worship. "For God so loved the world that he sent his Only Son . . . " Is there any other to whom we should show so much allegiance and appreciation? No.

Next, God **expects** us to worship Him. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me," He says. "Nothing shall separate us from the love (worship) of God." If we truly love Him we will want to humbly, graciously, show our appreciation to Him through worship.

Moreover, there are many who have never progressed beyond the concept of Cain in the matter of worshiping God. For some, the mere attendance at a worship service is "worship." For others, the matter of attendance at a worship service is not important. And not only this but, some come to worship with the notion of "twisting God's arm" for some personal gain.

To fully gain the best from the worship service we must therefore, give our best to the worship of God. In this way, worship is a paradox; it is giving and receiving. But this requires one to have a proper preparation and understanding of worship. One must first of all have the desire to find God through worship. He must be ready to receive communication from Him.

The finality, the objective of all worship of God is to find Him and communicate with Him. When one's heart is properly turned God-ward he need not be concerned about the transgression of self-centeredness. Rather, one will have a similar experience of Isaiah. " . . . I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple . . . Woe is me! I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts . . . and having a live coal in his hand . . . he laid it upon my mouth and said, Thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged." Isaiah 6:1, 5-7.

One of a Christian's precious experiences is the refreshing feeling of having worshiped and to come from the presence of a church sanctuary having seen and talked with God!

But one ordinarily does not attend a worship service and fully communicate with God without first having some form of preparation.

The primary preparation will be in the form of a determination to seek God. If one does not find God in worship then he is not really seeking Him! God may be found when a would-be worshiper has prepared himself to this end. Luke 11:9 assures us with the words, " . . . seek and ye shall find."

Then too, a spirit of expectancy is important in the preparation for public or common worship. Each worshiper should be a spiritual well driller. He should drill deep and expect to find the riches of God poured into his soul through worship. But a spirit of expectancy necessitates an active mind. For God cannot be physically felt, but spiritually discerned. This requires that the mind of the worshiper be active and alert! (And although a young man did sink in a sleep, fall from a window and was taken up for dead while St. Paul was conducting a worship service, this incident may be an exception rather than the rule! Cf. Acts 20:9)

Private worship of God induces good public worship. The good habits of daily devotions develops healthy habits for public worship of God. Daily private worship builds a pattern which is highly practical for public worship. This pattern

helps the worshiper meet God "naturally." The powers of concentration, imagination, and other spiritual powers are trained through daily devotions.

INDIVIDUAL WORSHIP vs. GROUP WORSHIP

Since the worship of God is a transactive affair between God and man, why is it necessary to have group worship? Briefly, these arguments may be proposed for the common worship service.

The primary argument for public worship is that God desires that we assemble together. To strengthen this argument, the Apostolic Church practiced common worship. Turn to Ephesians 4:11-13 which says, "And he (Christ) gave some apostles; and some prophets and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Now, if He gave pastors and teachers for the purpose of edifying His disciples in the church doesn't it follow that He wants us to use them?

Again, turn to Hebrews 10:24, 25. St. Paul tells us that we are provoked to love and good works "through the assemblying of ourselves together." The Bible very plainly asks every Christian to attend common, public worship.

From a psychological and sociological point of view, religion is both personal and social. Christians need each other in worship just as they do in other phases of their lives. It is true that God can be worshiped anywhere because "God is Spirit." (not "a" Spirit!) The psychology of worship tells us that we worship better when we are in an assembly of Christians. (It is possible however, to worship anywhere but it is not so natural in some places as others.) We often need the warmth and vigor of the Christian assembly in order to intensify our feelings toward God. As Luther has said, "At home in my own house there's no warmth or vigor in me; but in the church, when the multitude is gathered together, a fire is kindled in my heart, and it breaks its way through." The association of worshiper with worshiper in an assembly kindles the emotions which prompt heightened feeling and perception toward God. Miss Bowman best expresses this thought when she says that "The one is like a musician playing his own instrument in solitude. The other is like a full orchestra where the harmonies being created by all the other round out the music of one's own single string."

Worship is an art that must be learned. The use of the natural senses of wonder, reverence, and awe need to be directed properly in order to fully appreciate God, in order to properly approach Him, and then to appreciate the joy of His presence. Greater ease and freedom in worship is attained when one develops artistic skill in seeking God. He is more apt to pass by trivialities and come directly to the throne of God. And God will be more able to reveal Himself fully to the worshiper. Minor distractions and annoyances which may appear in the worship service will be inconsequential when the art of worship is properly cultivated. But the best way to learn to worship is **to worship.** It is like any other art; it is best learned through practice.

Lanark, Illinois.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

"SONGS IN THE NIGHT"

"Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!" Psalm 107:22.

IT IS EASY to be grateful for particular blessings. But the fullest enjoyment of the particular blessings cannot be had until one has learned to be grateful when there seem to be no blessings. Only when one can rejoice in the face of adversity can one feel that one's faith is deeply rooted. The poet has put it like this:

"It is easy enough to be happy
When life flows along like a song;
But the man worth while
Is the man with a smile,
When everything goes dead wrong."

In the cause of her Lord, a wealthy woman made a long journey. This necessitated her leaving her home with all its comforts, and to be separated from the associations of her personal friends, and to go to many cities, some of them small and with poor traveler's accommodations.

A friend asked her how her trip was going, perhaps expecting her to make some complaint.

"One can always rejoice," she replied.

With assurance in the knowledge that God is good, one can rest in the confidence that by faith and work we can drive the clouds away and prove God's goodness in our own experience.

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of November

Topic—"COMMANDMENTS"

1. THE NEW COMMANDMENT—John 13:31-35.

Isn't it strange that almost as Judas closed the door which separated him forever from Jesus—Jesus knowing so well what was in Judas' mind—gave His disciples this great new commandment! And yet it is not so strange. If ever in their lives they had been called upon to do the almost impossible, certainly they would be in the next few hours. It would test them severely to stand by and see Judas betray their beloved Master. He was preparing them to meet this and many such future situations. We meet them ourselves, every day. Can we stand the pressure of Satan encouraging us to hate when we should show love to others? Jesus said when we love one another then we are identified as one of His disciples.

2. STUDY OF LAW ASKED—Deuteronomy 11:18-25.

One wonders after reading a Scripture like this, how the Israelite people could ever have wandered so far away from God. How could they have forgotten His wonderful promises to do so much for them if they would only keep His commandments. He had promised them everything that a nation could want or that each one as individuals could desire. Yet they forgot so quickly. As individuals, God has promised us so much more even than the Jews, and yet we do not keep His commandments. Can you imagine what blessings God would shower down upon His people if they would follow His rules!

3. TEACHING THE LAW—Ezra 7:1-10

In the tenth verse of this chapter is a lesson we all need to learn ourselves. Ezra was determined to seek God's law, to do it and to teach it. He had "prepared his heart" for this task. When we see the many faithful Bible-school teachers serving in churches all over the land, we know there are those today who have set their hearts to do the same work. However, there are many who feel incapable of standing before a class to teach. What they do not realize is the fact that they are teaching, nevertheless, Ezra taught God's word by mouth, but with no more force and effectiveness than he taught it by his very life. We teach both by life and word.

4. DELIGHT IN THE LAW—Psalm 119:73-80.

It is possible that just because a song is sung by children we may be missing a great lesson it has for us. Let us read and consider what this children's song can teach an adult.

"I washed my hands this morning,
O very clean and white.
And lent them both to Jesus
To work for Him till night,
I told my ears to listen,
Quite closely all day through
For any act of kindness
Such little hands can do.
My eyes are set to watch them,
About their work or play,
To keep them out of mischief
For Jesus' sake all day."

This same watchfulness and delight in keeping the law of the Lord would surely give rich blessing to us and joy to the heart of our God.

5. LAW OF THE LORD—Psalm 19:7-14.

Perfect and sure is our Lord's law
Makes wise the simple, converts the soul,
Its commandments are always pure
Its statutes are truly whole.
The fear of the Lord is clean, and forever.

His commandments enlighten the eyes
His judgments are righteous altogether,
The statutes of the Lord are wise.
More to be desired than much fine gold,
Sweeter also than the honeycomb.

In the keeping of them there is great reward
For then will heaven be our home.
Keep me Lord from presumptuous sins
Sincere may my words and actions be
I want ever to be pleasing in thy sight
Oh, Lord, may I serve you faithfully.

How About Your Offerings?

THE EDUCATIONAL DAY OFFERING

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurer also please note:

Make checks payable to Ashland College, and send to Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio, and mark on Envelope "Educational Day Offering."

Support Ashland College and Seminary with your liberal giving this month

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

PRAYERFUL THOUGHTS

Pause here for a moment

"NATION shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:4) This verse of Scripture was the golden text in the UPPER ROOM devotional booklet for Wednesday, October 10, the day of this writing. We are longing for the time when this prophecy shall be fulfilled. The wars, strifes and bickerings throughout the world, and especially around the Suez Canal, cause us pain of heart and often times fear. We don't like the world's condition, but what approach have we taken toward the whole problem?

What kind of prayers are coming from our lips these days? For your thinking, I submit this one given by the UPPER ROOM:

> Father, help us to believe that the day shall come when the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. **May our lives this day help in some small way to hasten the coming of Thy Kingdom.** In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Here is the Thought for the Day:

> To bear witness to Christ, Christians must first receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

Brethren, the challenge of this prayer and thought should cause us to think more seriously about the work God has laid before us each day. Read the prayer again. THINK!

PROFITABLE ENJOYMENT

coordinating planning committee

Although you may know of some committee meetings that are quite boring, this was certainly not the case when the Coordinating Planning Committee of the Brethren Church met Friday and Saturday, October 5th and 6th. I count it a challenging privilege to serve as a member of this group for the coming year. The steps that were taken were forward steps and the representatives attempted to cast their vision beyond the present horizons.

This experience was most enjoyable, but it was a profitable enjoyment. Watch for the committee's work and reports in the future.

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

ASHLAND COLLEGE CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES ARE IN FULL SWING this time of year and a report is overdue:

—HOMECOMING AT A. C. IS OCTOBER 20th. We're getting excited about the big weekend and its play, floats, crowning of the queen, and football game with Findlay. The identity of the queen has not yet been announced, but we'll let you know as soon as the secret is out. Come to Ashland for Homecoming yourself.

—CAMPUS CRUSADERS is the new name adopted by the Sunday Evening group of college students who meet at Park Street Brethren Church for their devotional gatherings.

—A COLLEGE SUPPER was held for all A. C. students who attend the Park Street Church on October 10th. Food was furnished by the church members and the students were guests for the supper and the program.

SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE

CHARLES "CHUCK" HUFF, office secretary for Brethren Youth, is conducting a detailed examination of the subscription files for the BRETHREN YOUTH MAGAZINE (this is in addition to some other examinations he has frequently from Dean Delbert Flora and associates). Several of the magazine subscriptions are overdue this fall, so you will be receiving a card of such expiration. PLEASE HELP US by sending your renewal fee of $1.00 back immediately, so that a second notice will not be necessary. Don't miss the next issue—renew now!

T.Y.D.T.W.A.S.

THESE CRAZY INITIALS mean that The Youth Director Travels West And South. The western trip will be with Rev. Clayton Berkshire to Cheyenne, Wyoming for the Mid-West District Conference. They have graciously given time to present the work of our Boards. The fellowship promises to be fruitful as we strive to strengthen Brethren Youth in every district.

The southern jaunt will be to the Hillcrest Brethren Church, Dayton, Ohio on October 21. Conducting both services will provide an opportunity to speak concerning Brethren Youth and also show slide pictures of a European Work Camp. I'm also looking forward to an opportunity to meet with the young people there and talk about their part in the Miami Valley Brethren Youth work.

SPECIAL NOTICE
For
SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

BRETHREN YOUTH WORKSHOP
for adults and young people

NOVEMBER 10 MT. OLIVE BRETHREN CHURCH
3:00 P. M.
SAVE THIS DATE

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"WHILE IT IS CALLED 'TODAY'"

"WHAT TIME IS THE ACCEPTABLE TIME to God for a sinner to be saved (Heb. 3:7-15)?" "When is the day of salvation (2 Cor. 6:2)?" We own no life that we can call our own. We have no right to withhold a day from God. "Killing time is not murder—it is suicide." God says, "Today," but Satan tells us, "Tomorrow" (Prov. 27:1). Beyond the very present we have no assurance of continued life on earth (James 4:13, 14). Death is certain, and then comes judgment for the sinner (Heb. 9:27).

"There's time enough yet! there's time enough yet!"
(Is the song of youth today.)
For I want my life, which is scarce begun,
To be glad and free and gay;
Let me taste awhile of the joys of earth,
Of its pleasures first partake,
When I've older grown I will seek the Lord,
And the paths of sin forsake.

"There's time enough yet! there's time enough yet!"
'Tis the tempter's subtle snare;
'Tis the rock on which many lives are wrecked,
Going down in dark despair.
There is time for pleasure and time for work,
And for wealth to seek and hoard,
But, alas! alas! for the deathless soul
With no time to seek the Lord.

Then turn to the Lord while 'tis called today,
Lest this be thy vain regret,
That, "My soul is lost, and my life is wrecked
On the rock of 'time enough yet.'"

The most serious mistake one can possibly commit is to resist Christ and the Holy Spirit (Acts 7:51). If not "Today," then it is delay, which only serves to harden the heart against God (Heb. 3:7, 8). We are solemnly warned to be ready now for we know not what day or what hour the Lord will come (Matt. 24:44). We could be left behind to go through the great tribulation (1 Thess. 4:17), When Jesus comes according to His promise for His own (John 14:3). God's faithful Word also warns us that death is a certainty (Psalm 103:14-16). God warns that He is not going to always wait on us to decide for Him (Heb. 3:11). There is a limit, and rightly so, to the patience of God (Gen. 6:3a). We have no right to go on in unbelief (John 3:18). The wrath of God abides on the unbeliever (John 3:36). Not to love the Savior after all His love for us is to be under the curse of God (1 Cor. 16:22). "God is angry with the wicked everyday" (Psalm 7:11).

Man is responsible for his lost condition (John 5:40). If he laughingly says that he is not a heathen, he thinks he is self-sufficient (Rom. 10:1-3). To reject Christ is to "receive" another (John 5:43, 44).

And now, you that are saved,—what are you doing with TODAY" (Luke 19:13)?

So here hath been dawning
Another blue day:
Think, wilt thou let it
Slip uselessly away?

Out of Eternity
This new day was born;
Into Eternity,
At night, will return.

Behold it aforetime
No eye ever did;
So soon it forever
From all eyes is hid.

—Thomas Carlyle.

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for October 28, 1956

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Lesson: Psalm 23

THERE IS SOMETHING about the Psalms of David that strikes a responsive chord in the hearts of all men. David was able to express in words man's heart-hunger for God. He came to know the Lord intimately. Thus he was able to write out of his own spiritual experience.

The Shepherd Psalm, Psalm 23, is undoubtedly the best known, and best-loved of all Psalms—yea, perhaps of all passages in Holy Writ. It is still as fresh, vital and meaningful as when penned by the shepherd lad.

THE SHEPHERD PROVIDES. Three times this thought is presented.

Verse 1—"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." Relationship to the Lord must be a personal matter. David was not concerned about other shepherds, or other sheep. He knew the Lord; he had fellowship with Him. Therefore he could say, "my shepherd." With a personal knowledge of the Great Shepherd he could confidently be assured, "I shall not want." How precious is such a relationship with God!

Verse 5—"Thou preparest a table before me . . . Thou anointest my head with oil . . . My cup runneth over." Though the enemy may press hard upon my soul, the Lord will provide before me a table of spiritual bounty. He provides, not the barest necessities, but an abundance —superabundance—of the good things of life to enjoy for "my cup runneth over."

Verse 6—"Surely goodness and lovingkindness shall follow me all the days of my life; And I shall dwell in

the house of Jehovah for ever" (A. S. V.). His bountiful provision extends not only to this life, but to the life to come. When I shall reach the end of life's pilgrim journey on earth, I shall have the assurance of a "mansion" which the Lord hath provided for His own.

THE SHEPHERD GUIDES. This is the theme of verses 2-3. He leads His sheep to green pastures; He leads besides still waters; and He leads into paths of righteousness. What more could be desired than to know there is One who will lead when the way is dark and the path is obscured.

Something more is suggested here. The Shepherd always leads by going before the sheep. "And when he (the shepherd) putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him" (John 10:4). He does not ask us to travel a way unknown and untried. Instead He walks ahead. He makes the way clear. He seeks out the hidden danger. Thus we can walk in peace and assurance because the Shepherd is our Guide.

THE SHEPHERD GUARDS. "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me." No fear! Dangers may lurk on every hand, but I need not fear.

Rev. H. M. Freligh says: "This has been interpreted as referring to death, and it may be so. But sometimes life is more dangerous than death. Sometimes it takes more grace to live than to die. Sometimes life is darkened while death is illumined. Whatever the circumstance, this verse fits either case."

Psalm 23 was David's Psalm. Not merely because he wrote it, but because it was his experience. Is this your Psalm by experience?

After the trial of his soul, Job saith to God: "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth Thee" (42:5). There must have been a day when David also saw the Lord. A day when he entered into a personal experience with the Almighty. For he could say: **"The Lord is my Shepherd."**

Lesson for November 4, 1956

WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS

Lesson: Isaiah 53

THE COMING OF GOD'S Anointed One, the Messiah, was foretold hundreds of years before His birth. Moses spoke of the day when God would "raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren" (Deut. 18:15). David wrote prophetically of the Messiah in Psalms 22, 23, and 24.

It is not strange, therefore, that the Prophet Isaiah would also foretell the coming of the Servant of Jehovah. Indeed, Isaiah has been called "The Messianic Prophet." In chapter seven he speaks of the Messiah and His Birth; chapter nine, the Messiah and His Kingship; and chapter fifty-three, the Messiah as Servant. It is this latter chapter which we wish to consider at this time.

THE REJECTED SERVANT—verses 1-3.

The Coming One had already been proclaimed by Isaiah, but few believed concerning Him. Isaiah asked his people the question: "Who hath believed our report?"

When He does come, Isaiah says, He will be "despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief." How is it, we ask today, that men could so callously reject the Saviour? But they did! At His birth Christ was rejected. And during His earthly ministry people rejected Him. The crowds were willing to eat the bread which He provided. They watched with delight the mighty miracles He wrought. But when He challenged them to accept His teachings and follow Him —they refused!

The tragedy is not that men rejected Jesus Christ thousands of years ago. The tragic fact is that men and women still reject the Saviour TODAY!

THE SUFFERING SERVANT—verses 4-9.

This rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ on the part of the Jewish Nation constituted only a minor part of His sufferings. For He became our Burdenbearer. "Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows . . . He was wounded for our transgressions . . . and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

Why did He have to suffer and die? For MY sin! Horatius Bonar expressed his personal responsibility in these words:

'Twas I that shed the sacred blood,
I nailed Him to the tree,
I crucified the Christ of God,
I joined the mockery.

Around the cross the throng I see
Mocking the Sufferer's groan;
Yet still my voice it seems to be
As if I mocked alone.

THE TRIUMPHANT SERVANT—verses 10-12.

Thus Isaiah portrays to us this picture of Christ as the Suffering Servant for mankind. He does not leave us here, though. He goes on to speak of the Triumph of the Servant.

Having died for the sins of His people, "He shall see His seed." A redeemed people will be His heirs! And then—"the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand." Yes, God was well pleased with His Son because Christ had fulfilled the plan of redemption for all mankind.

Because of this obedience, "even unto death," God exalted His Son—"Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great."

"God's goodness hath been great to thee.
Let never day nor night unhallow'd pass,
But still remember what the Lord hath done."

—Shakespeare, II Henry VI, ii—.

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of
The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

WHAT MAKES A GOOD TEACHER?

WHAT SEPARATES a good teacher from an average teacher? Is it ability? Is it training? Is it experience? Or is it the amount of work each puts forth? Study the points below and see if you rank as a good teacher.

1. **A good teacher worships.** He (or she) attends at least one worship service every Sunday. He makes the worship period of his department in the Sunday school one of real inspiration for himself; he so conducts himself that all the pupils may follow his example. He practices daily personal worship.

2. **A good teacher prepares the lesson.** He devotes at least two hours weekly to lesson preparation, getting a thorough understanding of the content for himself. In the light of his individual pupils, he makes a written teaching plan to meet their greatest needs.

3. **A good teacher cooperates.** He serves on committees faithfully when the opportunity offers, and he attends all meetings of the Sunday school teachers and officers. He makes constructive suggestions to the officers when he can and asks for their advice in his problems.

4. **A good teacher keeps records.** He regularly takes the record asked for by the Sunday school, especially regarding new and absent pupils. He keeps personal information about his pupils, such as addresses, telephone numbers, birthdays, and such information about their work as will give him an accurate picture of each individual.

5. **A good teacher fellowships.** He is a real friend to his pupils, greeting them on the street, playing with them, when opportunity offers, visiting them when sick, and taking a vital interest in all their affairs. He visits the homes of his pupils at least twice a year. He calls on the telephone, sends a card, or makes a personal visit each time a pupil is absent.

6. **A good teacher attends faithfully.** He is always present at least ten minutes before Sunday school is scheduled to begin. He is present at least seven Sundays out of eight; and when forced to be absent, he notifies the department superintendent not later than Friday noon.

7. **A good teacher sets a good example.** He makes a genuine effort to live the truths that he teaches. He does not gloss over the highest implications which the lesson may have. He frankly admits his shortcomings where the ideal is higher than his practice.

8. **A good teacher prepares himself.** He reads regularly at least one good magazine on Sunday school and church work. He reads annually at least two good books on Christian religious education. He completes one or more teacher-training courses each year.

What is it that separates a good teacher from an average teacher? In three times out of four it's work—persistence, to be exact. The good teacher is no genius, but he is aware of Edison's statement, "Genius is 2 per cent inspiration and 98 per cent perspiration."

CENTRAL PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETS IN ASHLAND

TEN MEMBERS of the Central Planning and Co-Ordinating Committee met in Friday evening and Saturday morning sessions, October 5th and 6th, in Dr. Glenn Clayton's office in Ashland College. Those in attendance were Revs. L. V. King, Spencer Gentle, Delbert Flora, Phil Lersch, Smith Rose, W. C. Berkshire, W. S. Benshoff, Dr. Glenn Clayton, Mrs. Helen Fairbanks, and Caro Berkshire.

The Committee effected its organization, selecting the following: Chairman, L. V. King, Vice-Chairman, W. C Berkshire; Secretary, Spencer Gentle, Ass't. Secretary Helen Fairbanks.

Much time was spent in a study of the action of the late General Conference on the Committee's report presented at that time. Time was also spent in discussing avenues of activity and advancement pertaining to the work of the Denomination, our Boards and Auxiliaries Some of our acute problems were given serious though and discussion. In order to make definite gains this year several sub-committees were appointed to study specifi problems and to report back to the next meeting of th Committee, which will be held Monday evening prior t the April Pastor's Conference. The Committee will be re porting to the Denomination from time to time this year

YOUTH CRUSADERS

(CRUSADERS: "News from Brethren Youth," usuall appearing on this page, is on PAGE ELEVEN this wee Thank you.)

The Women's Corne

by Helen Jordan

BRETHREN WOMEN AT WORK THROUGH MISSION

Scripture: St. John 20:11-18

YESTERDAY I tried to show you we were standi on firm ground when as women we join together service to God since He Himself put that desire in t heart of the first woman. The tendency toward it and t appreciation for it has been handed down to us fr Mother to Daughter like a precious possession until h are you and I—by our faith modern possessors of t ancient call of God to His daughters.

So granted He calls women. Then does He call us t general or to some particular service? Well, of cou

the Lord does give the same command to every Christian, Go ye therefore and witness unto all people. We all follow this request in our own way because we are all different and because Christianity is so personal and individual. Christ called each of the apostles in a special way to a particular service. He approaches a group of fishermen and says to Peter "I will make **you** a fisher of men," and certainly Peter became just that, for we read in the book of Acts that Peter was able through the convicting power of the "Holy Spirit," to draw thousands of souls to Christ.

Jesus appears to Matthew and says, "Follow **thou me.**" Matthew was a learned man and later we find him setting down in a gospel the story of Jesus and His followers.

On the Damascus road Jesus is visible only to Paul though all of his companions were awed and frightened by the light. Paul responds not with Lord, what will thou have us do, but what will thou have me to do? Paul was an educated man, clever with his hands, a tent-maker, a builder, so to speak. Thus Paul becomes a builder in the House of God. Through Paul's letters we learn just how the Lord wants His church constructed, what is to be accepted or rejected in Christianity and just what the principles and doctrines of the church shall be.

So Christianity is always, in the end, you and your Lord involved in a special relationship and task. And Christianity in the final analysis is always a missionary faith, for the Lord has left the whole business of propagating the Word in the hands of Christians. There is no other way. There never has been, so we follow the same method today as did the first Christians. We must all be carriers of Christianity, going about infecting other people with this good infection, spreading the Word until it is a contagious and powerful force.

Now we have seen that the Lord issues a general call to all Christians and a specific call to each of us; but to women as a group, He also gives a particular responsibility. It is of a definite missionary nature. Let us find positive proof of this in the Bible Itself. On the morning of the first Easter Day the very first word heard in that empty tomb was the voice of the angel saying, "Woman, Woman why weapest thou?"

Then later it is still a woman. Mary Magdalene, who first encounters the Resurrected Christ in the garden. She knows Him not. He says one word to her. He calls her by name, "Mary."

She responds instantly, "Master." Then He gives her the message that makes Mary Magdalene the first missionary of the good news of the Risen Lord, for Christ says unto her, "Go tell my brethren that I am Risen."

Jesus thus places in the frail, woman hands of Mary Magdalene the key to the kingdom of God, the very same key you and I hold here in our hand today.

What are we to do with this remarkable tool that unlocks the door to eternal life? We can't as faithful decendants of Mary Magdalene who rushed away on winged feet when she received it—we can't sit here idly or even sit here clutching it selfishly to ourselves when the Bischofs, the Bylers, the Shanks, the Drushals, Margaret Lowery, Veda Liskey and all our own missionaries tell us there are souls in South America, Africa, North America, yes and even in some cases our next door neighbor who have never heard the Easter story.

Well, what can the Woman's Missionary Society do? True we are not ordained by our church as ministers of the gospel but we are ordained by Christ Himself unto a holy calling, for the pronoun used in the great commission is the personal pronoun "ye." "Go ye," He says and that means you and me, and not just a specialized group of ministers and missionaries. You are to witness every day to someone in some way—by manner, deed or word.

As a group the W. M. S. can also encourage alert, really intelligent young people to enter the ministerial or missionary field. I don't mean just any boy or girl, any listless, half-interested individual who some how or other for a number of foolish reasons finds himself or herself in the seminary. No, we need wide-awake young people who have the courage of their convictions, young people who **love and will study and will preach the Word** rather than these little moral lessons in good living which have led Christian people so far astray that some of us do not even know what the gospel message really is! Some of us are even confusing Christianity with a set of rules or ethics on good conduct. But to invest our lives, our interest and our money as a group of women into the life of some truly dedicated young Christian worker is a real indication of good stewardship.

Further, we as the W. M. S. are capable of doing so much more for our missionaries, for their endeavors and for the young Christian churches they help to establish. If these fine people are willing to dedicate a whole precious human personality in full time service to God and man, is it asking too much for you and me to support them daily, and I said daily, with our letters, prayers and money? Remember last year Mrs. Rodkey said a penny a day in our mite boxes for a Thanksgiving offering. What a little favor in exchange for the dedicated life of a missionary.

Now today and every day of your life Christ stands before you and before me as He once stood before Mary Magdalene 2000 years ago. Only now He calls us by name and gives us the same message He gave to her. Go tell my brethren I am Risen! Awaken my churches to repeat the glad tidings the Christmas angel sang. Say to all men that I am **Come**—come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly—that no man cometh to the Father except through me. Say unto them that I still walk the high ways and the by ways of the world seeking those who are lost and in need. Tell them that I am the Way, the Truth, the Open Door, that I bring light, love and life. Say to them that Christianity is Today for this people and for this age!

Yes, it was a great and noble call Jesus gave to Mary Magdalene. The greatest thing in all the world He entrusted to her willing, trembling hands. But she and the women who followed her never failed and neither shall we. For we, like all those others who have gone before stand here today listening for our names and we hear Him say to us firmly and clearly, "Go, and do thou likewise."

Mrs. Frank Morrison,
Dayton, Ohio.

(Delivered at the W. M. S. Session at General Conference, on Thursday.)

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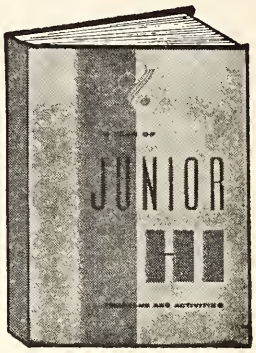
Worship for Teen-age and Youth

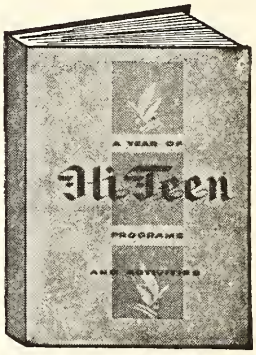
A YEAR OF JUNIOR-HI PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



Here are 52 programs, fresh and appealing, plus numerous parties, banquets and other special activities as well as programs for such occasions as Easter, guest night, New Year's and installation of officers. Each program has a unique idea for presentation to make it more realistic. For instance, this sports-conscious group will be delighted with the basketball tournament which lasts for 4 weeks, and baseball games. Some other topics are: Ring Out the Old, Ring In the New, How to Pray, Have a Heart, and Making a Choice. The size is 8½ x 11 inches and each book is perforated for ease in distributing program material. Also featured are a number of clever, really different publicity ideas.

No. 3372 ..... **$2.95**

A YEAR OF HI-TEEN PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

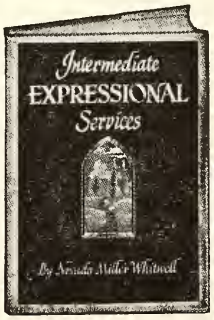


An unexcelled book of sparkling program material including parties, banquets, programs for special occasions, and projects for high-school and college-age groups. These 52 programs have been especially planned so that several individuals will participate each week, thereby creating more interest and activity. Included are inventory tests, buzz groups, role play situations, discussion checklists and many others. Some of the program titles are: What's for This Year, Help Wanted, It's Your Life, Party-line Prejudice, Hall of Greatness, Search the Scriptures, Walking With God, and Family Forum. Each program has a suggested poster or other publicity. Perforated sheets for easy distribution.

No. 3373 ..... **$2.95**

For Teen-age Groups

INTERMEDIATE EXPRESSIONAL SERVICES



By Nevada Miller Whitwell. 52 programs, each containing complete poster suggestions, choral and instrumental music, talks, stories, stunts, Scriptural readings, prayers, etc. A full year of program material for Intermediates that is refreshingly different.

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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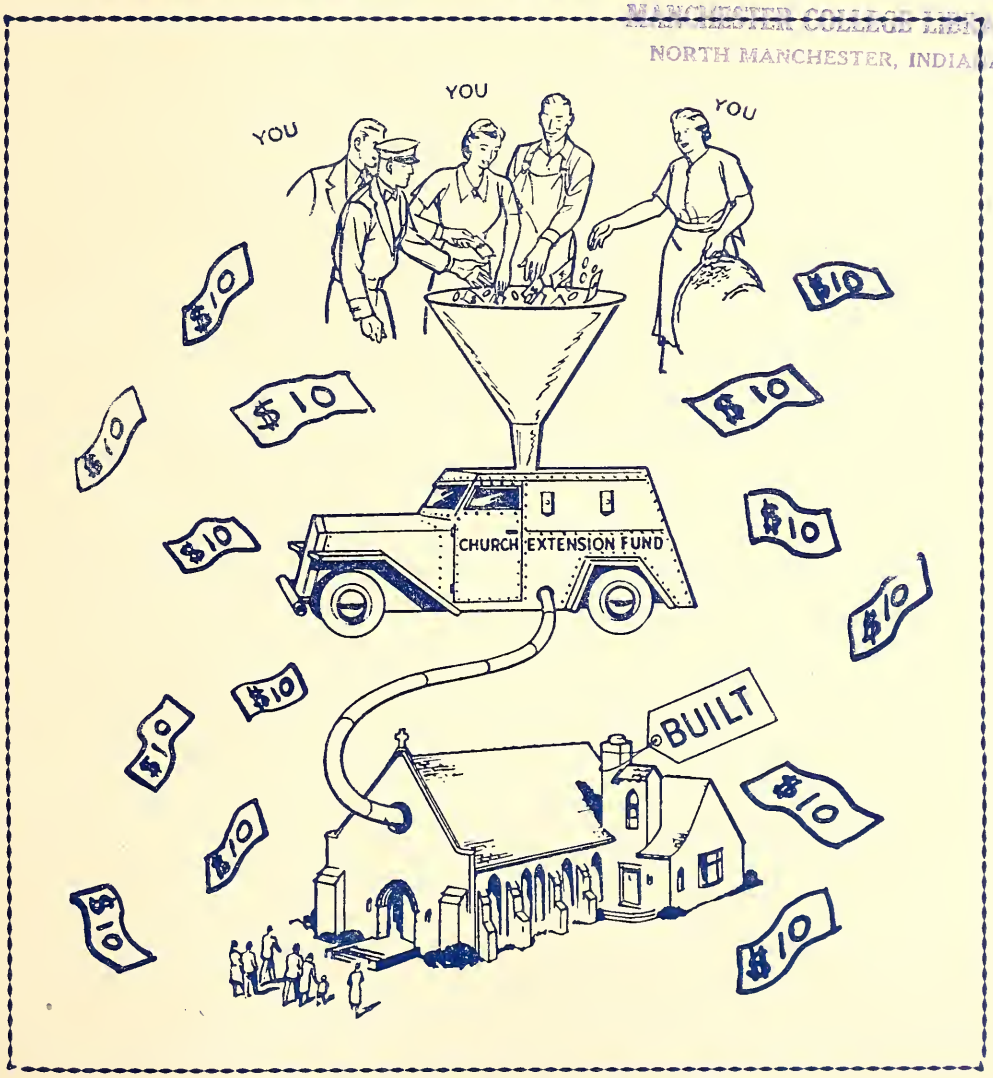

Through The Ten Dollar Club

VOL. LXXVIII November 3, 1956 No. 43

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

MAURERTOWN, VIRGINIA. Brother Ed Miller, in a card to the Editor, indicated that he expected to return home from the Hospital on October 20th. Brother Miller says that he feels fine, and wants to take this means of thanking all the folks who have sent him cards. Let us continue to remember our brother in our prayers.

OAK HILL, W. VA. Brother Milton M. Robinson has received and has accepted a call to continue as pastor of the Oak Hill church. This will be his fourth year.

GATEWOOD BRETHREN, FAYETTEVILLE, W. VA. A note from Helen Swanigan, Secretary, says, "Brother Hays Logan received an unanimous call from the Gatewood Brethren church to serve another year as their pastor."

BERLIN, PENNA. Brother Ralph E. Mills, in a note to the Editor says, "Baptized two on Sunday, October 7th. Had 215 in attendance at Communion."

(Continued on Page 14)

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT MINISTERS EXCHANGE PULPITS ON NOVEMBER 11

AN EXCHANGE OF PULPITS in the interests of Stewardship will take place among the Pennsylvania District Churches on Sunday morning, November 11th. The ministers will speak on the subject, "Stewardship." Below are the assignments which will be followed in this District Ministerial Association sponsored pulpit exchange:

BRUSH VALLEY .....WILLIAM KEELING
JOHNSTOWN SECOND .....DAVID RAMBSEL
CAMERON .....N. VICTOR LEATHERMAN
MASONTOWN .....RALPH E. MILLS
JOHNSTOWN THIRD .....D. C. WHITE
VINCO .....ELMER KECK
BERLIN .....KENNETH MOCK
PITTSBURGH .....WOODROW B. BRANT
WAYNE HEIGHTS .....CECIL BOLTON
JONES MILLS .....HAROLD BARNETT
MEYERSDALE .....GUY F. LUDWIG
VANDERGRIFT .....CLARENCE STOGSDILL

COMING EVENTS

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Revival Meeting—Novembe 4-11—Rev. C. A. Stogsdill, Evangelist; Rev. Bruce C Shanholtz, Pastor.

FLORA, INDIANA. Evangelistic Services—Beginnin November 11th—Rev. N. V. Leatherman, Evangelist; Rev C. A. Stewart, Pastor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. Wayne Heights Brethrer Evangelist Services—November 4-11—Rev. Phil Lersch Evangelist; Rev. N. Victor Leatherman, Pastor.

ASHLAND, OHIO. Park Street Brethren. Evangelisti Meeting—November 12-18—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Evange list; Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, Pastor.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. Second Anniversary Obser vance—Sunday, November 4th—Special programs bot morning and afternoon, with carry-in dinner at the noo hour. Installation of our new Pastor, Rev. Lyle Lichter berger, at the morning hour.

COUNTY LINE, Lakeville, Indiana. Revival Meetings— November 5-18—Rev. R. K. Higgins, Evangelist; Rev Herbert Gilmer, Pastor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—November 5 18—Rev. William Anderson, Evangelist; Rev. Spence Gentle, Pastor.

(Continued on Page 14)

ATTENTION

HISTORICAL DISPLAY

The Anniversary Program Committee of General Con ference is appealing to the Denomination for informatio on historical pictures, objects of historical value, etc which might be used in a Brethren Historical displa at the 1957 and 1958 General Conferences.

Anyone possessing such items, or knowing the where abouts of same, are asked to contact the chairman o the Committee, Rev. Percy C. Miller, by January 1, 195 (Do not send any items you may have until specificall requested by the Chairman to do so.)

Rev. Percy C. Miller,
23 West Hillcrest,
Dayton 6, Ohio.

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The Editor's Pulpit

Brethren Home Missions

IF YOU WERE GIVEN the charge and responsibility of planning and working a Home Mission program for a Denomination, how would you go about it?

For most of us, the above question would be a "conversation stopper." Few of us would know how to go about it, chiefly because we have not been trained, or have not had experience in that area of Church operation. Most of us would have plenty of suggestions, no doubt—some of which would be helpful and good; many more, not practical.

However, we do have a mighty fine Missionary Board in our Denomination composed of men and women, who, if they did not have experience and training in mission work when they were placed on the Board, have gained this valuable attribute since then. Home Mission work is big business and one which requires more thinking, planning, close watching of expenses, and hard work, than most people even begin to realize.

Have you decided yet how you would go about planning and working a Home Mission program? How would you go about deciding which struggling churches needed help, and how much? How would you decide which areas of our country are most promising for the location of new mission churches? How would you go about setting up a plan whereby mission churches, through a planned reduction in year by year help from mission funds, would become self-supporting?

We have given you but a small portion of the problems facing our Missionary Board in its Home Mission program. Another we could mention is the man-power problem. The right man in the right place at the right time as leader, is often a problem. Our Denomination needs top quality men right now—men of courage, conviction, leadership ability, training and consecration. The Missionary Board faces this problem in seeking ministers for new mission points.

Have we listed all the facets of a good Home Mission program? Are you now satisfied that, taking care of the problems we have mentioned, you could set up and work a growing Home Mission program in the Brethren Church?

That's right, there's at least one which we have not mentioned. And dear friends, it is one which, if every Brethren caught the vision of souls won to Christ and taught in the grace and knowledge of Christ, would be no problem at all! Do you know what we mean? Such a spirit, such a realization of Christian service, would far supercede the fact that we are called upon to give our dollars for the support of our Home Mission program. Let's get away from the painful process of carving dollars out of our pocket-books!

Instead, let's see growing mission churches winning men and women to Christ through the dollars we give. Let's see the love of Christ implanted in hundreds and thousands of hearts through the Mission offering dollars which flow from our pocket-books. We have been too long counting the cost in dollars; let us enlarge our souls by counting the cost in souls won to Christ in the outreach of our Home Mission program.

So, if you were in charge of the Home Mission program of a Denomination you would surely appreciate a Church people giving dollars in the spirit of Christian service. There is a big difference between putting a dollar on the mission offering plate, and the transforming of that dollar, through prayer and spirit, into souls won to Christ and strengthened in their Christian faith. The difference is in the number of dollars we will give; that is, dedicated and consecrated dollars. Then, the last great problem facing our Home Mission work will melt away in the glorious anthem of praise through a program which meets the needs of men today, and prepares for tomorrow. W. S. B.

Changing ANNOUNCERS at SARASOTA

OUR NEW PASTOR, Reverend Lyle Lichtenberger, and his family are well situated in our new parsonage, and he is already getting out in his community, becoming acquainted with the people here. This fine family that came to us on Thursday, September 13, began immediately endearing themselves to our people.

The past several months have been busy ones here: With the prospects of a full-time resident pastor, the congregation put forth additional effort preparing for his coming. After much planning and investigating, the present home was selected as the most strategic and convenient to the community in which our proposed church building is to be erected—in the very near future, we hope and pray. The parsonage is a beautiful three-bedroom modern house, in the midst of new subdivisions (five in number) where families of many young married couples with small children have come to be permanent residents of our city. Here the opportunities will be beyond measure, and we feel that rapid results will be forthcoming just as soon as adequate Sunday school facilities are available.

Again we cannot stress too greatly the urgent need for a building where Sunday school class rooms will make possible the definite separation of the children and young people. So the sooner our building is erected the more rapidly we can expand. We trust that before long we will be breaking ground for our new building.

Brother Lichtenberger brought his first message to the congregation on Sunday morning, September 16, and it was well received by the people. There were forty-eight present; and, with two exceptions, they were our regular attendants through the past months. As our people now begin to return from the North—both winter residents and new permanent residents—and as new contacts are made, we look ahead to much progress.

On September 19 we moved our mid-week service to the D. A. V. Hall and changed the night from Thursday to Wednesday. This, we feel, will give greater incentive for the people of the community to attend this service than would be found in the service being held in our home, as it has been from the beginning of our work here.

On October 3, the W. M. S. and the Laymen held their meetings at the Hall. Mrs. Vanator gave a report of the women's work as planned for the coming year and told of the fine sessions at the recent general conference at Ashland. At the Laymen's meeting our pastor set forth some plans which he has in mind for our group. Following the two meetings a social hour, with light refreshments, was presided over by Brother and Sister Nathan Rubin.

Plans are under way for steps in the matter of better organization in our Children's Division in the Sunday school. With the division of our present one-class session into various classes, we feel that more progress can now be made.

The new pastor will be officially installed on Sunday morning, November 4, which is the second anniversary of our organization, or rather of our first service as a group. We are planning for a carry-in dinner on that day and hereby send forth an urgent invitation for all who are in our vicinity to be with us. An afternoon service will be held following the noon meal.

Now, since this will probably be our "swan song," as far as reporting the regular doings of this group, we wish to take this opportunity of expressing our personal appreciation to each one who has been so helpful to us in the establishment of this work here; we could not have done it without your prayers. We believe we have an unsurpassed field in which to go forward in the work of the Lord and the Brethren Church.

We sign off now: "The Mo-Vans" of Sarasota—

Fred C. Vanator
Helen G. Vanator
Carl E. Mohler
Esther E. Mohler

925 North Lime Avenue

LAST MINUTE NEWS

The architect, Mr. Orus Eash, has just delivered to the Missionary Board the first draft of the plans for the Sarasota Church building. This is progress, and we hope the program will move more rapidly from this point on.

Progress, Praise, and Plans -- at SARASOTA.

LYLE LICHTENBERGER

Pictured: Temporary Meeting Place of the Sarasota, Florida, Congregation.

A PRAYING CHURCH will never fail. If you have been marveling at the growth of the Sarasota work, marvel no more, for that old proverb contains the reason. "When a church is doing the work of the Lord and its fellowship is united by prayer, nothing can hinder it. The gates of Hell cannot prevail against it."

Such is the story of the Sarasota Church. We have been here one month, and the sincerity of this congregation cannot be doubted. When we arrived in Sarasota after a very weary journey from Nebraska, we found the cupboards and refrigerator full, many of our goods were unpacked and put in place.

Now, perhaps we could give you some news of our fellowship. As you know, we are meeting in the Disabled American Veterans Hall. The Lord has blessed the work greatly by giving us such a place in which to worship so near our own property, where the church will be built.

The parsonage is a very lovely and comfortable three-bedroom home built in typical Florida style. The Florida room has been made into a study. Brother and Sister Carl Mohler have built bookcases, covering the only wall which is not glass, and Brother Ernest Faust presented to the church for the study a lovely desk and study lamps. Many other personal gifts, too numerous to mention, have been given to the parsonage family. Needless to say, we feel right at home.

Tuesday evening, October 9, the Official Board met for their first time with the pastor, and plans were formulated for the future work of our church. A committee on religious education has been appointed, and plans are made to form two new classes, making four in all: pre-school, juniors, young people and adult. Of course, more teachers will be needed; therefore, a teacher-training class will be started the first week of November. A secretary has been appointed for our Sunday school—Mrs. Edna Rubin, and the achievement-type records are to be kept.

The Board also voted to have a pastor's class for the new members of our church. A finance committee was appointed, and the Board voted to meet monthly, on the second Tuesday. Various other items were discussed.

New contacts are being made daily, and the enthusiasm with which our church is being received is marvelous. One lady, who has been "shopping" for a church for a number of years here in Sarasota, said Sunday, "I have finally found a church where I can feel at home. You can count on me being regular." Such a testimony is the customary reaction to this "fellowship of believers." This congregation, under the joint leadership of Elders Vanator and Lemert deserves the heartiest of commendations for their unceasing effort to establish a Brethren church in this city.

Needless to say, we are anxiously awaiting the start of our church building and for this we must rely on you. The Ten Dollar Club needs you—you as an individual. This is one way you can answer the Lord's command—"Go ye." Your concern, your prayers, your financial support are needed. We know you will do your part in helping the Brethren to spread the Word of God in Sarasota!

Missionary Motives

DR. E. M. RIDDLE, President,
Missionary Board of the Brethren Church

WHEN GOD SO LOVED the world as to give His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life, He laid the foundation of missions in His own heart's blood. God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself before the world was; and on that basic theology which shines forth in both Old and New Testaments, Jesus Christ took His stand. When He said, "I know whence I come and I know whither I am going," He knew the will of God in regard to the work of evangelism. Hence His life is our pattern:

"O Lord and Master of us all,
Whate'er our name or sign,
We own Thy sway, we hear Thy call,
We test our lives by Thine."

In Victor Hugo's wonderful novel, **Les Miserables**, when Jean Valjean is at the point of death—that man who had sacrificed and suffered greatly—he pointed to the crucifix of Jesus, saying, "It is nothing to die; it is a dreadful thing not to live." You and I have scarcely been able to measure the sacrifice of Jesus. Truly we should learn of it.

The Gospel writer, John, lays bare the heart of Christ in the Great Commission, and shows us the spirit in which we are to go: "Jesus came and stood in the midst and said, 'Peace be unto you'; and when He had said this, He showed unto them His hands and His side . . . and He said again, 'Peace be unto you: as the Father hath sent me, so send I you.'"

The power of sacrifice is the great unwielded power of missions today. The scars of our Lord are the test of true discipleship—always and everywhere. Who today can write as St. Paul did, "Henceforth let no man trouble me, for I bear branded in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus"? Such a person can wield the power of sacrifice and sincerity. Is it not true today that so few of us show any of the lacerations and tears and blood and agony of Gethsemane and Calvary? If we can, then certainly we are ordained by a higher power than any church to preach the Gospel of love and reconciliation to a lost world.

This leads me to ask—do we spend or give for th Kingdom of God as a mere side-issue, or is there in th gift some evidence of sacrifice? Somewhere and someho we must learn to bear in our own lives the scars of th Lord Jesus.

The Church at Home needs new life. How can we ex pect to export a thing or an experience which we do no possess? Let the Church stir up its holy patriotism t the mission for which it has been set apart. THIS WIL TAKE MONEY AND LIFE—yes, life more abundar and triumphant. We must win more souls or our religio (Christianity) fails. We Brethren have a stewardshi the same as any other church.

Recently I read of this experience: A father died lea ing two sons and a widow. One son said, "I have bee concerned and even oppressed about our lack in goc stewardship. He proposed to his brother and mother tha God helping, they would not lay up another dollar fc themselves, but they would keep the little capital th was necessary for their own personal expenses and gi the remainder each year for support and extension of their church. The reluctant mother, who at first thougl her son was a poor business manager, finally agree Their experience in twenty years was that they ha never lost a dollar, but rather, they had joy in givir and sharing in the work of their church.

Every member of our beloved church is appointed a life of stewardship. Some day every one of us w hear the word, "Render the account of thy stewardship Have we been faithful? Can we, with a glad heart a a clear conscience, meet this challenge: the opportuni to help build new churches and to assist in maintaini those who need some assistance—and in so doing, fe the impact of a growing church?

Personally, I wonder whether we can face our missio ary needs—**men and money**—with these qualification Be honest; have courage; and dare to venture for Gc and in a sane common-sense way meet the great fac and vision of the Missionary Board of the Brethr Church.

WE CAN, IF WE WILL. SHALL WE? SHALL WI

Program -- Finances -- Accomplishments

PROGRAM PLUS FINANCES equals accomplishment. This is an equation which we have found to be true n the Lord's work when other basic Christian principles re functioning properly.

A mission program, no matter how good it is, without ufficient money to put it into operation will accomplish irtually nothing. By the same token, a fat missionary reasury without a program is impotent. It takes both well-planned program and funds to operate the proram to bring tangible results.

There have been times when the Missionary Board of he Brethren Church had funds and not much of a proram; but the picture has changed. Today we have a rogram worthy of the generous support of every memer of the Brethren Church. There are several places here we could establish churches immediately if the ome mission giving of our denomination were up to par. he work at Lost Creek and Krypton, Kentucky, could rogress more rapidly, if adequate funds were available.

Our program presently is running beyond our financial bility, incurring some indebtedness; however, we feel hat the program must move forward. Furthermore, we eel that we must find a way to carry on even in the ace of the shortage of funds, for we are confident that od is helping our Brethren people to feel their stewrdship responsibilities to missionary work as never beore.

The Missionary Board has a program now which is being carried out and will be carried out to the extent that the contributions of our church and our people make possible. It is now up to you, Brethren!

SETTING A GOAL

SETTING A GOAL is a good business procedure, but we do so with some reservations, requesting that you refrain from considering the goal as a ceiling for giving to Home Missions—that you construe the term **home mission needs** to be a relative thing;

—that you consider what we ought to be doing for Christ through home missions, if every member were really concerned and interested;

—that you then give out of your love for Christ and your gratitude for His redeeming love.

Minimum Goal $60,000.00

This is the minimum suggested to care for the regular, recurring operating expenses, including pastoral supports, indebtedness retirement, etc.

Capital Fund $10,000.00

An additional $10,000.00 capital fund for building and improvement is also requested. Mission property must be kept in good repair and mission churches must complete their buildings. Also land for new churches must be acquired at the opportune time.

AND WHAT ABOUT A BUILDING?

EVERY NEW CONGREGATION will sooner or later need a house of worship. In these days it is mostly sooner." New congregations can worship in temporary uarters for a limited time only and show satisfactory rowth. But where is a struggling new congregation to et funds for the erection of a new church?

The Missionary Board has attempted to give a partial nswer to this question in establishing the Ten Dollar lub. This plan can supply $20,000.00 each for two new hurches every year when the 2,000 anticipated memberhip is reached, operating under the present agreement f making not more than two calls in one year.

To make additional funds available for these little ocks, the Board is investigating the steps necessary to etting up a revolving fund. The money in this fund would be loaned to new congregations on terms geared to their ability.

This would be a permanent revolving fund out of which loans would be made, paid back, then loaned to other new congregations, and so on and on—until after 30 or 40 years the same dollar may have come to the assistance of three or four congregations which were in need of a church building, but which could never have built one if it had not been for the very practical provision of this church extension treasury.

It has been said that home missions move forward on the feet of such revolving extension funds as described above. That is why your Missionary Board is working to put into operation a church extension revolving fund.

Testimonials:

I BELIEVE in home missions and church extension work because I want to be a member of an active, alive, alert and aggressive church body. We are all here to be helpful to all people. Certainly, establishing new churches in unchurched communities, faithfully teaching and preaching the Word and witnessing for Christ are basic Christianity.

DeMain Warner,
Goshen, Indiana.

I BELIEVE in home mission and church extension work because this is the church's answer to "Jerusalem and Judea" in Acts 1:8. Here is a challenge!

Here are sowing, cultivating and harvesting. Here are —if we will accept them—trial, labor and sacrifice—that which makes Christ's people strong and sturdy.

God will richly bless his people who keep his commandments and labor in his vineyard.

Howard E. Crom,
Escalon, California.

I BELIEVE in home mission and church extension work because through these agencies God's plan for the salvation of mankind is revealed to many who might otherwise never have become well enough advised, either to take action for their own salvation, or to try to lead others to Christ.

W. H. Teeter,
Dayton, Ohio.

I BELIEVE in Home Missions and Church Extension because:—

1. **Christ commanded it:** "Ye shall be witnesses unto Me in Jerusalem . . . Judea . . . Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."
2. **The apostles exercised it,** and the first churches grew out into their respective communities.
3. **The followers of Alexander Mack continued it,** and so came to this country and spread from Philadelphia across the continent.
4. **My grandfather B. H. Flora practised it,** and there are at least three churches yet functioning which he founded or assisted in founding.
5. **I have been saved by it,** because thus the Gospel came to me.

Delbert B. Flora,
Ashland Theological Seminary.

LOST CREEK, KENTUCKY

MUCH WORK, money, time and effort have been put into the mission at Lost Creek, Kentucky, during the past year. The new parsonage has been completed, necessary maintenance on the buildings and equipment has been cared for, a farm program has been launched, cutting, sawing and selling the timber on the farm have begun, and the classroom-administration building has progressed to the place where it is now completely under roof. All of these accomplishments ought to encourage us to continue the improvement program at Lost Creek.

At present the work on the classroom-administration building has almost stopped, because of the lack of funds. Dorman Ronk continues to work on the building as time permits.

Here again we say, **It is now up to you, Brethren!**

KRYPTON, KENTUCKY

Two New Sunday Schools

MISS LOWERY has been requested by the people of two nearby communities to open two new Sunday schools. Miss Lowery, knowing the importance of having such a witness in their communities, has complied with their request.

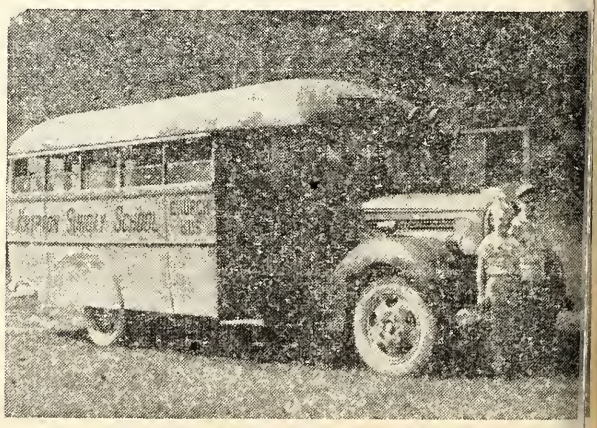
On Sunday, October 14, fifty-two people attended the new Sunday school at Dunraven. This is most commendable for the second week of this new school.

Miss Lowery used her new jeep on Sunday, October 14, to travel to the new Sunday school at Dunraven. The jeep was recently purchased by the board for Miss Lowery's use in her work. This is the only type of automobile that can get over some of the roads which she must travel.

Money for the jeep was supplied by several different organizations of the brotherhood, including the Central District W. M. S., the Pennsylvania District W. M. S., Wonder Class of Oakville Brethren Church and a Sunday school class in the Elkhart Brethren Church.

Additional Workers

Miss Lowery needs additional help to carry on the work at Krypton. Pray for a pastor for the Krypton area.



Sunday School bus—Krypton, Kentucky

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

"CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP is the **practice** of the Christian religion. It is neither a department of life nor a sphere of activity. It is the Christian conception of life as a whole, manifested in attitudes and actions."

Profession And Practice

"Christian stewardship is exercised to the greatest satisfaction when it is sincere and honest. Very few are enjoying the practice of stewardship in the fullest degree. One is almost horrified at times by the inconsistency between profession and practice. Sometimes this inconsistency is overwhelmingly displayed right before the altar of the Lord, in connection with the public worship—as when a well-fed, well-dressed congregation rises and sings lustily:

"We give Thee but Thine own,
What e'er the gift may be
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee."

while the pastor very reverently places almost empty plates on the altar. One wonders if the last two lines would not come nearer the truth for many if they were to say:

"The little coins are Thine alone,
The rest belongs to me."

Our Church—God's Agency

"The Lord has designated the Church, and no other agency, as the agency through which His work is to be done in the world. To it He has given all of His commision. To it He has entrusted all of His resources. To it He has given all of His promises. Upon it He bestows all of his blessings. From it He expects the fulfillment of His will. In it He provided for the exercise of all gifts. To it He asks for undivided loyalty."

The Church And Individuals

"The great inclusive commission was given to individual Christians, not to an organized Church, but the magnitude of the mission made cooperative effort for its fulfillment both natural and necessary."

Our Primary Mission

"The primary mission of the Christian Church in the world today is to possess, maintain, manifest and promote a sound, steadfast, dynamic, unconditional and definite loyalty to the Christ of the Scriptures."

By Spirit And Deed

"His commission is to preach, teach, and bear witness to the Gospel; and witnessing is by spirit and deed sometimes more than by words."—Statements from Dr. Walton H. Greever in his stewardship anthology "Living Roots."

A NEW SPIRIT DAWNING

IN SOME AREAS of our brotherhood, there is a growing air of urgency about our home mission opportunities. We are thankful to God for this expressed concern and for this renewal of confidence in what God can do through us. It may be that we are about to experience a renewal of that pioneering spirit which characterized some of the early years of our church.

Ohio District Ministerium

The ministerium of the Ohio District, in their annual meeting in July, passed a resolution urging each minister to establish a class (this term used in the handbook) in his neighborhood during this year, looking forward to the possibility of this becoming a new Brethren church.

This kind of action is certainly commendable, but it must be carried out by every pastor, if it is to be of any real value. We are confident that some of the Ohio pastors are making a study presently to see how this can be done in their own general localities. May their efforts be strengthened by the assistance of capable laymen and may the Lord bless them all with gratifying results.

More new Brethren churches to win and to teach more people for Christ and the Church!

PHOENIX—A Typical Opportunity

PHOENIX, ARIZONA, is typical of many cities of the Southwest, Mid-West and southern areas of our United States. The rapid increase in population, the flexible attitude of the people and the need for additional churches to win the people to Christ and to teach them the Word of God present a real opportunity to establish a new Brethren Church.

In addition to the above encouraging conditions, Phoenix has eight or ten families of Brethren people who have expressed an interest in establishing a Brethren church there. This can be a real asset to a new work, if these Brethren have a mind to work and consecrate themselves to the innumerable tasks that must be performed.

The Missionary Board has approved Phoenix as a new church extension point, and negotiations are being made to get a pastor on the field as soon as circumstances permit.

Reverend Vernon Grisso has been doing some cultivation work with this group for the past nine months. This has been a real help in determining whether or not the Board should begin a new work in Phoenix.

Mid-west cities such as Denver and Omaha present opportunities for new Brethren churches. The Missionary Board is giving consideration to moving into these and other cities as men and money are available for church extension work.

Just under the line! Information from Rev. Vernon Grisso arrived just in time to be included in this issue. His letter states that the Phoenix group met on the evening of October 15 and decided to have Sunday services for four Sundays, October 21 through November 11. Both Sunday school and worship services will be held with Rev. Carl Grove, formerly of the Brethren Church, conducting the first three services and Rev. Vernon Grisso conducting the services on Sunday, November 11. Pray for the guiding of the Holy Spirit in this new venture.

The services at Phoenix will be held at The Pulaski Club, 4331 E. McDowell at 43rd Place. Shirley Price Wissinger will be in charge of the music.

PROJECTING YOUR LIFE

The Missionary Board encourages every adult member of the Brethren Church who holds property valued at one thousand dollars or more to make a will. This is a part of a Christian's stewardship. The person who puts Christ first in regulating his life and work also puts Him first in arranging the settlement of his affairs when life is ended.

Even the person of most modest means may leave something to the Church, however little it may be. Perhaps the most valuable thing that he leaves will be the example of the practice of his faith in the final disposition of his goods.

Remember the Missionary Board in your will by giving a bequest, legacy or by creating a trust.

The corporate name of the board is as follows: **Missionary Board of the Brethren Church**; the address is 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

"SURELY, I'D GO TO CHURCH . . . "

"Surely, I'd go to church, if there were one to go to." A Brethren moves, looks around a bit for another Brethren church in his new community, and finding none, gives up. He's found a good excuse for staying home. Soon he's lost to any church and the Lord's work! Here is another reason for establishing new Brethren churches.

Thy Love I Share, O L

WE HAVE A TASK

It should be rather clear to the Brethren Church or to any other Christian church in America that our work is cut out for us, when we analyze the following statements published by the Religion In American Life movement.

"Sixty-five million Americans do not belong to any religious group;

Eighty million Americans do not attend religious services regularly;

Nearly half of all American children do not receive regular religious education."

Can any honest Christian deny the need for a strong home mission program of winning and teaching Americans for Christ and His Church?

The R. I. A. L. editor further states that "these disturbing statistics have been carefully assembled. Perhaps the most alarming one of all is the large percentage of children who are growing up as spiritual illiterates. Here is a grim and frightening preview of our citizens of tomorrow, unless parents face up to the full responsibilities for the total education of their children."

The simple conclusion of all this is that within the borders of our United States there are millions of people who do not have Christ in their hearts, and consequently they are lost. To be practical about the matter, we must further realize that thousands of these people are living in the vicinity of our Brethren churches. Our task is to win them and teach them.

TUCSON—WASHINGTON, D. C.

These mission churches report increased attendance during the fall season.

On a recent Sunday, the Tucson Brethren Church had

167 for Sunday school;

128 for morning worship;

123 for communion.

On Rally Day, the Washington Brethren Church had an attendance of 170. Statistics for the previous week were

140 for Sunday school;

120 for morning worship;

34 for prayer service;

$133.39 total offerings.

STATUS AT NEWARK, OHIO

Twenty of Newark Brethren Church's 24 resident members attended one of the two of its first Communion Services during 1956. The average Church School attendance for the Third Quarter was 27, as compared with 17 for the Third Quarter of last year. The Worship Service attendance average was 30 as compared with 22 a year ago. Sunday evening services were begun the first of October last year. Last Quarter the average attendance was 13. A mid-week Prayer and Bible Study hour was begun the first Wednesday evening this year. Last quarter's average attendance was nine.

Two and one half years ago, the Church School was begun with two classes. Since, this number has grown to five classes. Also, a Cradle Roll is promoted with nine "active" members, and a Home Department with four members.

Regular Quarterly Church Business Meetings are being held. At the annual Business Meeting October 20th, complete ballots of Church School officers and teachers, and of Church officers were elected, to take over January 1st, next. Deacons and Deaconesses were called and ordained, and three Trustees with staggered three-year terms are of record. These facts take on meaning when it is recalled that two and one-half years ago, the first service was held with two families present, besides our own. Eight more families are attending regularly, and four more occasionally.

With the Church School attendance of 28, the average Sunday offering last quarter was $7.00. And, with average Worship Service attendance 30, the average Lord's Day offerings averaged $24.00. When Mrs. Crick and I arrived in March, 1954, the "faithful few" had accumulated $656 in a Building Fund—now it is $3,078. During the thirty months, the group has contributed consistently toward the denominational Boards as well as assuming extra expense in connection with the Chapel and in redecorating the Parsonage purchased by The Missionary Board last March. June of this year, they began paying $50.00 per month toward this Pastor's stipend, relieving The Board of that amount.

With Rally Day, Communion Sunday and Annual Church Business Meeting successfully held, we are now looking forward to the organizing of a Woman's Missionary Society this fall, and the holding of the first Evangelistic Campaign in the spring.

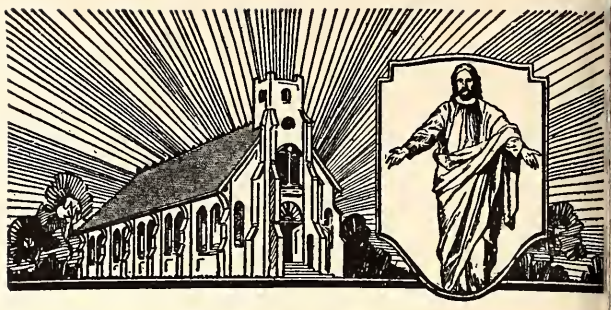
William S. Crick.

HOME MISSION OFFERING

Make checks payable to the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

, Winning and Teaching

I Will Build My Church



Rev. Robert L. Keplinger

Scripture background—Matthew 16:13-18.

I WILL ENDEAVOR to open your thinking to this great subject of the Church of Jesus Christ. We must expand our thinking beyond our own Brethren Church and try to gain a concept of the "true" church which is the body of Christ of which He is the Head; but also we must endeavor to enlarge our own church body and the message which God has given to us. Perhaps we could liken it to the story of the Methodist layman who approached the gate of Heaven and was greeted by St. Peter. Before entering, Peter asked if there were any questions he might like to have answered. "Yes," said the layman, "could you tell me where the Methodist group is located and just where some of the other groups are in relation to that?" St. Peter pointed to the golden stairs and told him that the group on the left of the stairs were the Methodists, the group in front of the stairs were the E. U. B.'s, on the right of the stairs were the Lutherans, and then just a few feet away at the swimming pool were the Baptists. Then Peter pointed to a group way off in the distance on a mountain and said, "There are the Brethren." The Methodist layman thanked him for the information but said he had one question—"Why is it that most of the churches are grouped around the golden stairs except the Brethren and they are so far off from the rest?" To this St. Peter answered, "Well, the Brethren Church was the only one God could trust out of His sight."

Our conference text deals with another incident in Peter's life. However, I am sure this is a much more truthful presentation. We find Peter's great confession, "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God." This is followed by Christ's statement—"Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." There is in this statement a definite play upon words and there is no reason to draw from this statement a doctrine of earthly priesthood. In the Greek we read—"Thou art Peter—petros, literally 'a little rock'—and upon this rock—petra, 'a larger foundation rock'—I will build my church." Christ does not promise to build His church upon Peter, but upon Himself, and Peter himself is careful to tell us this in I Peter 2:4—9: "To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritua sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." Wherefor also it is contained in the Scripture, "Behold I lay in Zio a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believetl on him shall not be dumbfounded." Unto you therefor which believe He is precious; but unto them which b disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, th same is made the head of the corner, and a stone o stumbling, and a rock of offense, even to them whic stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto als they were appointed."

Let us examine our conference theme from this out line—

I—Jesus Christ

Will Build—past, present, future

My—believer's personal relationship and responsi bility

Church—"called out" body

I. I—Jesus Christ. The foundation is Christ. He is th starting point. It is clear that the foundation of th Church is the risen Christ. "If Christ be not risen"– the church is built on the sand, rather than on the roc as Christ revealed.

The stones of the church are prepared by Christ. Wha is the process of preparation?

1. Conviction of sin. A sense of sin is the first state i holiness.
2. Repentance of sin. "Repent ye"—Right about fac Set your mind on the things above.
3. Remission of sins. Christ the founder can set us fre of our sins. "I was bound to the old shore of guil forgiveness cuts the ropes and sets the voyager free.
4. Inspiration. With pardon there comes power. "Ar ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." N only is the rope cut; but the soul receives new pow for a new voyage to a better haven.

Thus are individual lives or stones prepared for tl church by Jesus Christ, the foundation.

II. Will Build—There are over 300 references in tl Bible to the work of building. Building better lives, whe to build, how to build, and how not to build.

Over half of these references concern building houses of worship to God. Some built just an altar. Solomon built a magnificent temple.

As we build our lives so we build temples of worship to our God. Some of them may be upon sand as Jesus warned us, but others are built upon the rock. Christ told us we cannot serve two masters—so, neither can we build two foundations and live on them both.

The churches which we build are truly "temples still undone," for no matter how complete they are architecturally, their worthiness depends upon us as members.

So let all of us, whether we are carpenters, plumbers, lawyers, or housewives, determine how we can best help our church to build a better church. This we can do by our worship, our giving, our services to God and His kingdom here on earth.

Jesus said, "I will build"—He gave us a blueprint to follow. In the past there was the example of the early church.

1. They had conviction.
2. They were "one in the breaking of bread," they sought spiritual food.
3. They were one in supplication—by their prayers. How the elements of division melt away in the exercise of prayer. Souls are drawn into intimacy and union.
4. There was also the example of dedication. This was the consecration of their substance unto the Lord. The need of one was supplied by the fulness of the other.

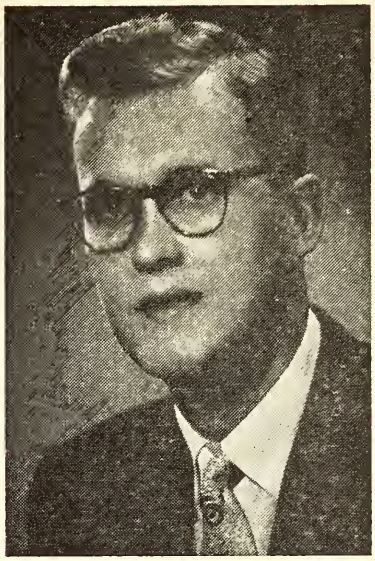
In the present we have the Bible as our blueprint. We must learn to use this "best seller" and make it the "best read" and the "most read." We at one time fought to keep the Bible and now we seldom open it. The Bible must be used as our blueprint.

In the future we have the promise of Christ's second coming at which time He will draw the Church unto Him and we shall reign with Him in eternal glory and power. We must be watchful and waiting for His coming.

III. I Will Build My—personal relationship of Believer to Christ also involves the believer's own responsibility.

If we realize our relationship to Jesus Christ as the founder of the church, we must also realize our obligations. First of all there must be a genuine Christian life which aims at the standard set by the Gospel. There must also be a readiness to endure—to stand fast. Finally, the obligation involves the co-operation with fellow believers.

"What can I do for the church?" exclaimed a young man to his minister. After some thought the minister replied, "Well, you can manage to mention it in your conversation once each day, and in your silent prayers at night. You can attend its services, loyally support at least one of its organizations, pay some amount willingly into its treasury weekly, be a reader of one of its representative periodicals, be 'out and out' in your loyalty to it, invite the unchurched and the unsaved to its services and exhibit a cordiality at its services. The busiest Christian in the world can find time to do the above without at all neglecting anything on earth, and he will be happier, wiser and more satisfied for the effort put forth."



REV. ROBERT L. KEPLINGER

IV. I will build my church—a called out group. "Ye are now the people of God." I Peter 2:9-10: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

The Church is a chosen people—Christ said "His own inheritance."

The Church is a redeemed people—Christ died for our redemption.

The Church is an endowed people—Christ promised the power of the Holy Spirit which came at Pentecost.

The Church is a distinctive people—a Divine calling which broadens and deepens human fellowship.

The church is an obscure people—it had to go into obscurity for preservation. The Pope-Church forced this, but there arose a People-Church who gathered for worship and fellowship. These groups were the real seed of the Reformation and Protestantism. Look for the true seed in the obscure people then and now—as our own Brethren Church.

The Church is a revived people—filled with evangelical enthusiasm.

The Church is an ecumenical people—there are Christian people in all the parts of the inhabited world. "In Christ there is no East or West . . . but one great fellowship of love."

The Church is a visionary people—always looking ahead and planning for God's Kingdom.

Conclusion: Christ said "I will build My Church." In I Corinthians 3:9-11, Paul says this: "For we are labour-

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Vice Moderator's Address delivered at Linwood Park, Vermillion, Ohio, July 12, 1956.

ers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." So we as individual Christians need also to say, "I will build my church." In doing this there are three relationships we must keep ever before us. **First, is the God relationship.** We are to worship God. We are not to act merely as a spectator nor just as a plain listener, but be a participant. Public worship is an activity of the spirit. Each Christian worshipper must be a participant. **Second, is the world relationship.** Basic in this thought is the fact that human nature can be changed—Christ proved it. We must therefore endeavor as Christians to instill a faith in Christ, the foundation of the Church, and a desire to become a part of His body—this is the world relationship of the Christian. **Thirdly, the personal relationship.** This is the fostering of Christian character. We are to become Christ-like in our own individual lives. Martin Luther once said "Man never is a Christian, but is always becoming one."

Let us keep in mind these three relationships—God —World—Personal—as we like Christ say "I will build my Church."

Closing thought or prayer. As Christ said "I will build my Church," so help us to build O God, that we may never fear the storms of life because we are secure within Thy mercy and Thy love. These things we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Canton, Ohio.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

WAYNESBORO, PENNA. WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN. Brother N. V. Leatherman notes that there were 44 present at their Community Night service on a recent Sunday evening.

MEYERSDALE, PENNA. MAIN STREET BRETHREN. A New Nursery room has been opened in the church, and members of the Win-A-Couple Class will be responsible for caring for the young children during the services of the church.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Dr. J. Raymond Schmidt, in the interest of Temperance, brought the morning message in the Masontown church on October 14th.

NORTH GEORGETOWN, OHIO. Brother Donald Rowser reports an attendance of 59 at the recent District Laymen's Rally held in the North Georgetown Church. Brother Virgil Meyer of Ashland was the speaker.

GRATIS, OHIO. A good meeting is reported by the Laymen who attended the District Rally at Gratis the evening of October 15th.

ASHLAND, OHIO. PARK STREET BRETHREN. A new arrangement of evening services is now in effect at the Park Street church. The vesper service is held at 6:00 P. M., with the youth groups meeting from 6:45 to 7:30.

HUNTINGTON, INDIANA. Brother Claud Studebaker was speaker at the Community Day observance, on November 1st, speaking in the First Baptist Church, at 1:30 P. M.

BRIGHTON CHAPEL, HOWE, INDIANA. November will be observed as "Evangelism Month" in the Brighton church, with the pastor, Brother Smith F. Rose, bringing evangelistic messages at the Sunday services and on Wednesday evenings. Meetings for the young people will also be held prior to the Sunday evening services. Emphasis is on encouraging decisions for Christ and inviting folks into membership of the church.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates notes that the average Sunday School attendance for September was 227 which is the highest September average on record.

On a recent Friday, a group of North Manchester Senior Crusaders went to Lost Creek and Krypton, Kentucky, where they presented a program at both of these places. The Crusaders earned the money for this trip by washing cars.

WATERLOO, IOWA. The City Ministerial Association was entertained in the Waterloo church on a recent Thursday. Dinner, at noon, was served by the ladies of the church.

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 2)

SOUTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT LAYMEN'S RALLY

The Southern Indiana District Laymen will hold their regular quarterly meeting at the Mexico Brethren Church on Monday evening, November 19th. We wish to urge a good attendance from all churches in the District, as election of Officers will be made for the coming year. Also a program of real interest. Plan to come and enjoy real fellowship.

Supper will be served from 6:00 to 7:30 P. M. prevailing time. Send reservations to: Mrs. James Donaldson, R. R. 3, Peru, Indiana.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

News From Our Churches

WHITE DALE CO-OPERATIVE BRETHREN CHURCH TERRA ALTA, WEST VIRGINIA

The summer pastorate of Rev. Duane A. Sholly proved to be a very active one. Moving into Terra Alta with my wife, from Indiana took all of two days, June 13 and 14

Preaching services commenced on June 17th. We soon found ourselves in a full schedule of visitation. These visitations included such outlying towns as Cranesville, Rowelesburg, and Kingwood.

There were many highlights of the summer. On the evening of Sunday, July 15, a goodly number turned out to hear Walter Wertz from Johnstown, Pa., speaking. Mr. Mackall, also from Johnstown, rendered a vocal solo. Rev. Woodrow Brant, pastor of the Vinco Brethren Church and an Elder of the Whitedale Church attended with them. That weekend we had visitors from North Manchester, Indiana.

The regular morning services of July 29th were recalled, and, as many as could, attended the services of the Portland District Sunday School convention of Preston County, at the city park.

The week of August 5-12 found the church in the midst of a busy week of revival meetings. Some of the message titles were: "Our Subtle Enemy," "Home for Sinners," "It Pays to be a Christian," "The Great Awakening," and "The Last Supper."

The Week of Meetings was climaxed with a beautiful communion service and Love Feast with 45 in attendance. Rev. Gayland Fike assisted in the service.

The summer was full of conventions. On Sunday, June 24th, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Slaubaugh reported on their trip to the National Convention of the Church of the Brethren at Eugene, Oregon.

The pastor, his wife, and three other delegates from the church attended for two days the Pennsylvania District Conference of the Brethren Church. This was held at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, July 16-19, at the 3rd Church.

The Week of August 13-19 found the pastor and his wife at Ashland, Ohio, attending the National Conference of the Brethren Church. Some very good messages were heard. We brought back a report and some Sunday School material for the Superintendent.

On Monday, August 27th, my wife and I attended the minister's conference of the West Virginia 1st District of the Church of the Brethren at Camp Galilee. Many of the problems of our churches were there discussed.

The last week of the pastorate proved to be an active one for the church. The regular evening service of August 26th featured a very good film obtained from Elgin, Illinois, entitled, "The Beginning of the Rainbow." Before the film there was a service of song and testimony. About 45-50 were in attendance. "Christian Living" was the theme of the program.

Friday night August 31st, despite the opening of the county fair, a very good number turned out to hear the Ambassador Quartet from Ashland, Ohio. Slides were shown of the work of Brethren Youth. The boys rendered many musical numbers. Rolf Stolpner, 5th of the group and pianist, and German student who just graduated from Ashland College, gave a stirring message, calling all Christians, the world around, to rally for the cause of World Peace. The quartet will be going to Europe next summer to sing and preach the Gospel Message. Rev. Pugh and Rev. Gayland Fike from the Eglen Church were in attendance. Rev. Donald Matthews from Crelia was also here.

Sunday, August 19, the church held its council meeting and called Rev. Donald Matthews as its new pastor.

The Sunday of September 2nd climaxed our ministry here.

Duane Sholly.

ATTENTION PASTORS:

DEFINITION:

Cross Country Conference is a simultaneous conference on STEWARDSHIP conducted in every church in the denomination at the same time.

TIME:

January 18, 19, 20, 1957. You may conduct the conference over this three-day period in any way your church decides.

LEADERSHIP:

Your own pastor may exchange pastorates with another pastor, or ask some leader to come in and conduct the conference, or he may ask some qualified Layman in the congregation to be the leader.

MATERIALS:

The National Ministerial Association in cooperation with the Missionary Board will provide the materials.

SUPPORT:

1. You must help your minister in this project.
2. See that the conference is announced in your church right now.
3. Pray about this simultaneous conference now.
4. Set the dates down on your church calendar.

SOME MINISTERS ARE ALREADY MAKING THEIR PLANS—DON'T DELAY YOUR PLANS.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE BIBLE

SOMEONE HAS SAID that the Bible is "The uprooter of sin, the revealer of God, the begetter of life, the light of intellect, the fashioner of law, the guide of history, the foe to superstition, the comfort in sorrow, the enemy of oppression, the strength in weakness, the star of death's night, the promise of the future, the pathway in perplexity, the escape from temptation, the illuminator of darkness, the secret of national progress, the charter of all true liberty, the forerunner of civilization, the steadier in the day of power, the ornament and mainspring of literature, the moulder of institutions, and government, the regulator of all high and worthy standards, the answer to the deepest hunger of the heart."

The Bible accounts for itself (2 Peter 1:21). It explains its own origin (2 Tim. 3:16). Its writers were God-inspired (2 Samuel 23:2). If anyone is tempted to doubt the validity of the Bible let him answer the following questions: How did Moses know that the heaven was created before the earth (Gen. 1:1) several thousand years before the Copernician system of astronomy was discovered? How did Job, contrary to the wisdom of his day, know that the earth rested on nothing (Job 26:7)? How did Isaiah, some 2,000 years before Columbus, know that the earth is round (Isaiah 40:20)? How did Jeremiah, without the telescope and in a day when men thought that the stars numbered around a 1,000, know that the stars cannot be numbered (Jer. 33:22)? How did Job know that there are no stars beyond the North star (Job 26:7)? How did Job know that the moon does not shine but only reflects the light of the sun, a fact which scientists have but recently discovered (Job 25:5)? How did Moses know that the sun is larger than the moon, the ancients contending to the contrary (Gen. 1:16)? How did Moses know that light existed before the sun appeared, a thing now believed by scientists (Gen. 1:3)? How did Moses know that the life is in the blood, when science did not discover this until 1615 A. D. (Lev. 17:14)?

Archeology is proving the history of the Bible more reliable than profane history because the inspired Word records events as they actually happened. By no means could the detailed predictions of the sufferings of Christ been carried out with the intent to fulfill prophecy as far as man was concerned. Christ was to be sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zech. 11:12; cf. Matt. 26:14-15), betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9; Zech. 13:6; cf. Matt. 26:49-58), forsaken by disciples (Zech. 13:7; cf. Matt. 26:56), His hands and feet would be pierced (Psalm 22:16; cf. Luke 23:33), He would drink gall and vinegar (Psalm 69:21; cf. John 19:20-29), they would part His garments and cast lots (Psalm 22:18; cf. John 19:23, 24), the price of His betrayal would go to the potter's field (Zech. 11:13; cf. Matt. 27:5-7), etc. In fact, 120 prophesied details were fulfilled in our Lord's sufferings and death. Would Judas have hung himself to fulfill prophecy? Would the priests have sent the betrayal money to the potter's field to fulfill the condemnation written against them in the Scripture?

Now let us submit to reasons for studying the Bible: It is a mirror, showing me myself and my Savior (James 1:23, 24). It is a hammer, to break hard hearts (Jer. 23:29). It is a fire, to purify me from evil (Jer. 23:29). It is a two-edged sword, to pierce me through and through (Heb. 4:12). It is food to nourish and sustain my soul (Jer. 15:16). It is a lamp and a light, to guide my feet aright (Psalm 119:105). It is good seed, to produce a harvest for God's glory (Matt. 13:37). It is a discerner, to keep my motive always pure (Heb. 4:12). It is a sword, to enable me to fight for my King (Eph. 6:7).

"How precious is the Book divine,
By inspiration given!
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine,
To guide our souls to Heaven."

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

WHAT IS A BEGINNER?

BEGINNER PUPILS are four and five year olds who have not yet entered first grade. Before the teacher can effectively care for them, he or she must understand them.

Physical Characteristics

Restlessness and great physical activity are the most marked characteristics of this period. Physical framework is developing and growing.

The largest part of the Beginners' physical activity is expressed in play. The child expresses his imagination in play. The things that have made a great impression on him are often relived in his play. Play helps to prepare the child for life.

Myer Pearlman, noted Sunday school writer, says, "You can teach a child virtually anything through play." Therefore the Sunday school teacher and the pupils should together "play" the Bible stories being presented.

Mental Characteristics

Through his adventures the Beginner can solve some of his problems. He is at the age where he phrases words. Asking questions is one way for him to secure information. His needs are often expressed in questions. Questions show that the child is ready and willing to learn.

The wise teacher will encourage the Beginner to ask questions and will try to give him satisfactory answers. It is more important at this age to answer questions than to formally "teach." A child's development can be

seriously affected by adults who ignore or ridicule his questions.

Social Characteristics

Socially the Beginner is self-centered. His social contacts have been limited to his immediate family, close relatives, and a few playmates.

Some children are bossy and always want to lead. Others want to show off constantly and attract attention. Some do not show much originality, and content themselves with imitating the show-off. Fortunately there are cooperative children who balance these other types. The teacher should try to turn the Beginner's attention away from himself by using stories which present God as the Creator, His Son as the Savior, and the great Christian virtues (love, kindness, etc.).

Spiritual Characteristics

The child of this age is inherently a believer. Beginners have great faith; they believe and trust implicitly. Of course they cannot comprehend all that faith involves, but they can feel its results.

Joining in prayer at the family altar, listening to worshipful music, studying pictures of Jesus blessing the children—these all minister to the Beginner. Therefore teach him with many stories and bright-colored pictures.

Remember, the first six years are the most important years in the child's life. It is here that lasting impressions are formed. Guard these years; use them well. The work extended will pay eternal dividends.

SORRY:

The Sunday School Lesson Comments for this week had not arrived at our press time dead line. We hope to bring you this regular feature again next week.

Wedding Announcement

YORK-ROWSEY. Miss Edith Elaine York, daughter of Mrs. Ellen M. York of Mansfield, Ohio, was united in marriage to James H. Rowsey, son of the Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Rowsey of Milledgeville, Illinois in a double ring ceremony in the College Chapel at Ashland, August 19, at 4:00 P. M. The ceremony was performed by the bridegroom's father, assisted by the Rev. J. D. Hamel, brother-in-law of the bridegroom. Mrs. Phillip Lersch, Jr. was organist; Miss Nancy Wolf and Marlin McCann, vocal soloists; and Mrs. J. D. Hamel, violinist.

The bride was given in marriage by Arthur Hassig, her brother-in-law. Miss Mary Ellen York, the bride's sister, was maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Miss Viola Betz, Miss Lila Miller, and Mrs. Arthur Hassig, sister of the bride. Miss Linda Hassig, niece of the bride, served as flower girl. Richard Kuns was the best man. Ushers were Larry Weidenhamer, John Flora, and John Rowsey, brother of the bridegroom. The newly weds are students at Ashland College. Jim is a pre-seminary student and Edith is a student in the evening division and a teacher in the Ashland school system. Upon completion of their educational preparation they plan to go to South America under the auspices of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church. They are living at 710 Jefferson St., Ashland, Ohio.

—H. H. Rowsey.

SMITH-GODLEVSKI. On Saturday evening, August 18th, at 7:00 o'clock, Miss Connie Lee Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Holland, was united in marriage with Donald Edward Godlevski, of York, Pennsylvania, at the Brethren Church, Teegarden, Indiana, by the undersigned, using the double-ring service. Miss Smith is a member of the Brethren Church, Teegarden, Indiana, and Mr. Godlevski is a member of the North Manchester Brethren Church, North Manchester, Indiana, where both are attending North Manchester College. Reception following the wedding was held at the home of the bride two miles in country from Teegarden, and was attended by many relatives and friends, after which the bride and groom left for their new home in North Manchester, where they will remain until graduation. May the Lord bless and use them in His service.

L. O. McCartneysmith, Minister.

Laid to Rest

SCHRIVER. Frank Jacob Schriver, Cumberland, passed out of this life at Memorial Hospital September 17, 1956 at the age of 77 years, 6 months, and 3 days. Brother Schriver was born in Buck Valley, Pennsylvania, March 10, 1879; and was the son of the late George and Jennie Schriver. In 1889 he was united in marriage to Clara Hendershot, who survives him, with two sons, two daughters, one brother, four sisters. Member of the Brethren Church, Cumberland, Maryland; Senior Deacon, member of the Board of Trustees, and also a member of the Laymen's Chorus. He will be greatly missed both in his beloved Church and in this community. Funeral at the Brethren Church, and interment at Davis Memorial Cemetery, Oldtown Road, Cumberland, September 19th.

L. O. McCartneysmith, Minister.

STUMP. Ann Elizabeth, five year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon L. Stump, New Paris, Indiana, died suddenly the evening of October 2nd in front of her own home. She was crossing the road to play with a little friend when hit by a car. She was the only child, and was greatly loved by all who knew her. Services were conducted in the New Paris Brethren Church, Friday, October 5th, by E. M. Riddle, Pastor, and the Rev. Eldo Evans, Pastor of the Church of the Brethren.

E. M. Riddle.

HEY!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

JANET KLINGENSMITH
Reigned as
HOMECOMING QUEEN
Ashland College .....October 20, 1956
Proud Parents .....Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Klingensmith

MASONTOWN
ALL-PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH RALLY
Saturday, November 10

MT. OLIVE
B. Y. WORKSHOP
FOR
SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
Youth and Adults
Nov. 10 .....3:00 P. M.
Come and Bring a Carload

CENTER CHAPEL
SOUTHERN INDIANA YOUTH RALLY
Thursday, Nov. 15 .....Evening
Keep this date open

THANKSGIVING DAY
NOVEMBER 22, 1956
Take Time to be Thankful

FREMONT, OHIO
held a
LOCAL YOUTH RALLY
October 27, 1956
Recreation .....Fu
Banquet—Film
Speaker
A Good Idea .....Have One yourse

SMITHVILLE
NORTHEASTERN OHIO
JUNIOR YOUTH RALLY
Theme:
"THANKS BE TO GOD"
Ages 9-12 .....Time—10:00-2:
Saturday, November 3
Election of Officers

NATIONAL BRETHREN YOUTH BOARD
FALL MEETING
Nov. 13 .....2:00 P.
Student Union .....Ashland Colle

GOSHEN
NORTHERN INDIANA YOUTH RALLY
Sunday, Nov. 18 .....3:00 P.
Plan now to attend

PLEASANT HILL
MIAMI VALLEY YOUTH RALLY
Sunday .....December
Do your Christmas planning early

ASK YOUR CHILDREN TO READ THIS PAGE

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

God, Friend Or Stranger?

ERIC GILL, the British sculptor, wrote in his autobiography: "I had a dream in which I was walking in heaven with my wife, Mary, and our children. We met Our Lord and I said to Him, 'This is Betty, and this is Petra and this is Joan.' And He shook hands with them all, and then I said, 'And this is Mary.' And he said 'Oh Mary and I are old friends.'"

What a wonderful tribute!

I wonder how many church members are really old friends of God? Maybe you are. Or maybe you're just a nodding acquaintance. You speak to Him briefly at church on Sunday morning. You hear a lot of talk about Him, from the Sunday School teacher and the minister, and then you go home and forget all about Him until Next Sunday.

Do you know God only by hearsay? Oh, you know He's up there, always, waiting, in case you get into bad trouble and need Him.

Think a minute. When you have sorrow or trouble, you want your best friends around to help, not strangers. How about God? Is He almost a stranger to you? If He is you should start right now to get better acquainted. You've met God in church, now bring Him into your home, into your work and into your leisure hours.

How? Well first you should find out about God. Read the Bible and study it. That's a good start, but you really don't know God until you can talk to Him and feel His presence in your life.

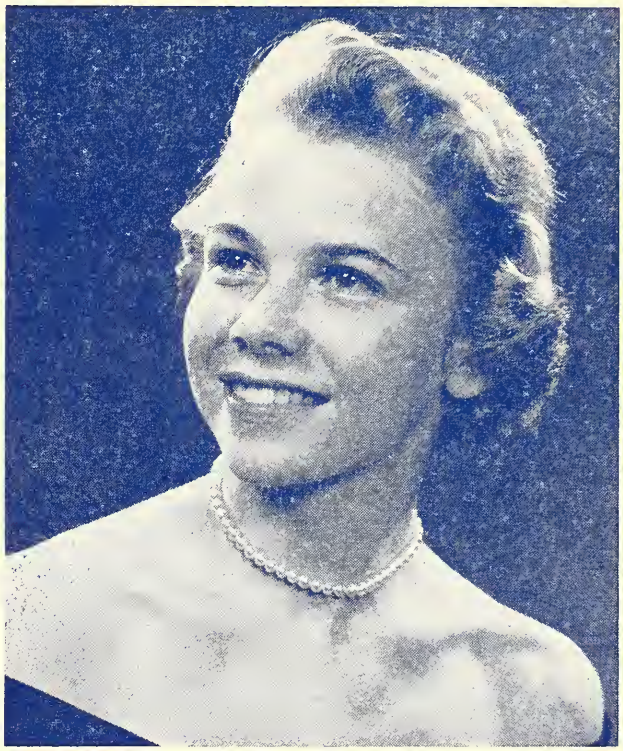
Get down on your knees and start praying. Thank Him for the many wonderful things He has given you. Tell Him your troubles, and then listen to His answer.

Don't tell God what you think He ought to do. He's the one who knows the answers. Keep at it day after day. You will find that your little problems become easier to solve and when the big ones comes along, you'll find you have a friend to turn to. And some day in heaven the Lord may take your hand and say "You and I, we are old friends."

Mrs. Mark Logan,
Bridgewater, Va.

Read your Brethren Evangelist every week.

JANET KLINGENSMITH reigns as Ashland College Homecoming Queen October 20, 1956



MISS JANET KLINGENSMITH, A Sophomore at Ashland, reigned as Homecoming Queen on the Ashland College campus, at festivities on October 20th. Janet is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. Ray Klingensmith. She is well known to many Brethren as she was a part of the Klingensmith household when her father served as pastor of a number of our churches, at one time engaged in Mission Board work, now living in Ashland and serving as a Professor in Ashland Seminary.

Queen Janet is studying in the field of Elementary Education, and is a member of the Chapel Choir, Y. W., Pi Kappa Pi pledge, Girls' Gospel Team, Social Committee and Pep Club.

Our congratulations to Queen Janet. Homecoming Day was a success as to weather, attendance and festivities; a success, in spite of a rather positive trimming of the Ashland football team by Findlay College.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

A SEASONABLE SYLLOGISM

A SYLLOGISM, as you may recall, is a logical scheme of argument or reasoning; it consists of a major premise, a minor premise and a conclusion. Let's construct a good example:

Major premise: All good Brethren join the Ten Dollar Club;

Minor premise: You are a good Brethren;

Therefore: You will join the Ten Dollar Club.

Why do I say that good Brethren join the Ten Dollar Club? Here's why: Being a good Brethren, you are convinced that you possess a wonderful blessing in your Christian faith; you believe that your church is following scriptural teaching more closely than any other; and naturally you want to share these experiences with others—especially those with no Christian faith.

One of the best ways by which we may do this sharing is by taking our church into areas where it is needed and where people are asking for it. Such places are known right now—at Sarasota, for example. There Brethren people are now worshipping together, but they do not yet have their own building; and though they are working tirelessly to this end, they will need our help.

The Ten Dollar Club has already been instrumental in helping to build Brethren churches at Tucson, Arizona, and at Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. These examples may be multiplied many times over, if we strengthen and increase this means of outreach of the Brethren Church. If we can enlist a total of 2,000 members, who give $10.00 (or more) whenever a call is issued (never more than twice in one year), you can readily see the reinforcement this will provide for our home mission endeavor.

The minor premise of our syllogism only you can establish. Are you a good Brethren? I believe you are, or you would not even be reading the pages of this Brethren publication; however, you must provide the answer. Now, if you have established these two premises (these are not the kind of premises with "keep off" signs), the conclusion is unquestionable.

All good Brethren join the Ten Dollar Club;
You are a good Brethren;
Therefore: You will join the Ten Dollar Club!

10

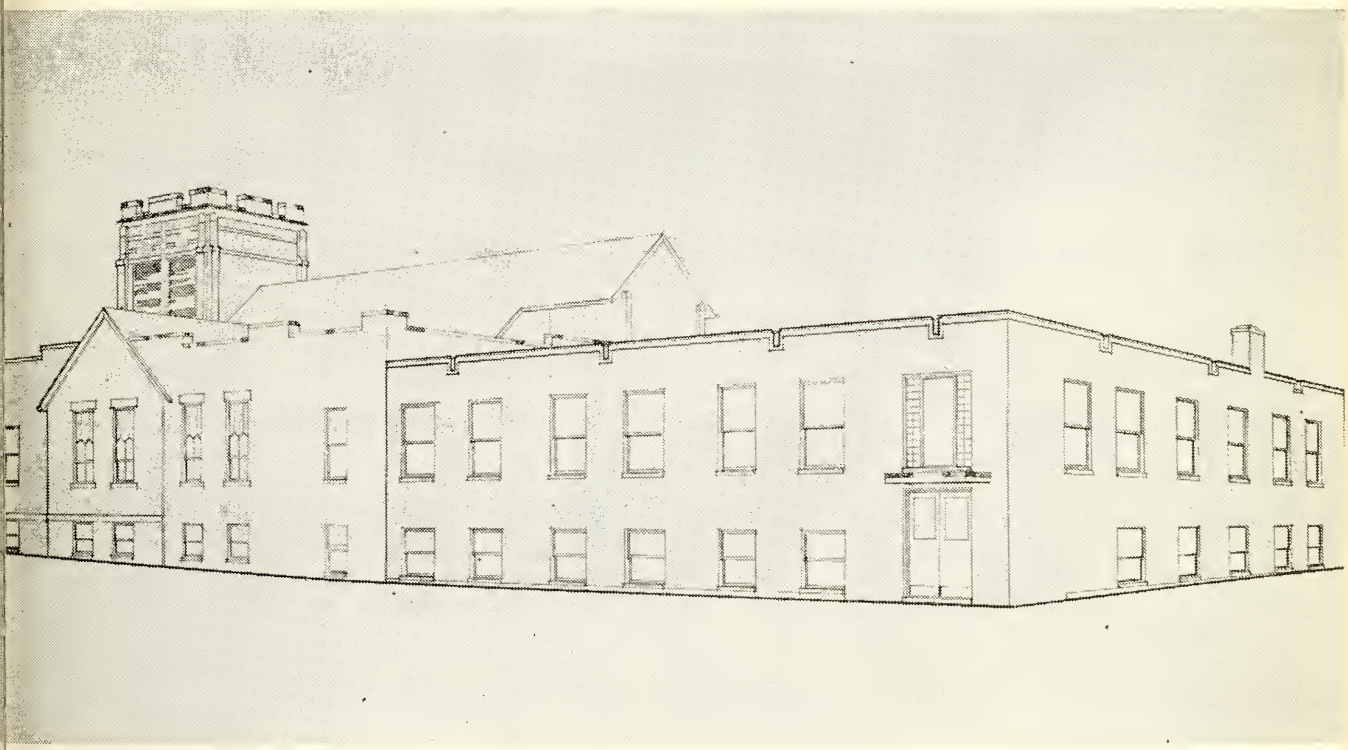
DOLLAR CLUB

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

Additional Building Program in progress at New Lebanon, Ohio

MANCHESTER COLLEGE LIBRARY
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA



Architect's drawing of present edifice and new building now going up

(Story on Page Ten)

VOL. LXXVIII November 10, 1956 No. 44

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

BETHLEHEM BRETHREN, HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA. Guest speaker in the Bethlehem church on October 28th was Brother Paul M. Naff, of Dayton, Virginia. Brother Naff also assisted in the Bethlehem communion service, which was held the evening of October 14th.

MT. OLIVE BRETHREN, McGAHEYSVILLE, VIRGINIA. Brother Paul M. Naff, of Dayton, Virginia, was the scheduled guest speaker at the November 4th morning and evening services in the Mt. Olive church.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The Union Thanksgiving Service is to be held in the St. James Brethren church the evening of November 21st.

Brother Freeman Ankrum reports a Rally Day attendance of 191. "Full house" is reported for the church service.

MAURERTOWN, VIRGINIA. In this column last week we reported that Brother E. L. Miller planned to return home from the hospital on October 20th. We now note in addition to returning home, he conducted the Communion Service in his church the evening of October 21st. After spending several weeks recuperating at his daughters in Washington, D. C., Brother Miller plans to return to his pulpit about the middle of November. Let us continue to pray for Brother Miller's recovery.

BERLIN, PENNA. Sunday evening, October 28th, the Laymen presented their public service, with Mr. Earl Dibert, who spoke on the subject, "The Laymen's View of Missions in Africa."

MAIN STREET BRETHREN, MEYERSDALE, PENNA. A farewell carry-in supper was held for Brother and Sister Horace Huse on October 28th in the Church. Brother and Sister Huse have now moved to their new pastorate at Loree, Indiana.

THIRD BRETHREN, JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. Johnstown Third was one of nine West End area churches which joined in a religious survey of the community on November 4th.

Third Brethren's annual Game Supper is scheduled for the evening of November 12th.

Brother Clarence Stogsdill reports that Prayer Meeting and Bible Study attendance is averaging about 30 to 35 each week.

NEWARK, OHIO. Family Night was held on October 27th.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. At the W. M. S. Public Service on October 28th, Dean Delbert Flora, of Ashland Seminary, presented pictures of his Holy Land travels.

HILLCREST BRETHREN, DAYTON, OHIO. November has been designated as "Loyalty Month."

(More Interesting Items, Coming Events, and other Announcements on Page 11)

ATTENTION: LITERATURE SECRETARIES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Fourth Quarter Order Blanks have been mailed. If you fail to receive one, please notify the office.

BE SURE TO RETURN THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to insure receiving your Sunday School supplies on time. ORDER NOW, AND AVOID DELAY.

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The Editor's Pulpit

Desire --- Striving --- Attainment

ALL AROUND US are the changing patterns of life. Sometimes we are amazed at the rapidity with which a certain stabilized situation can become a mass of confusion. How true it is that "Yesterday is not today." How true it also is that "Today is not tomorrow."

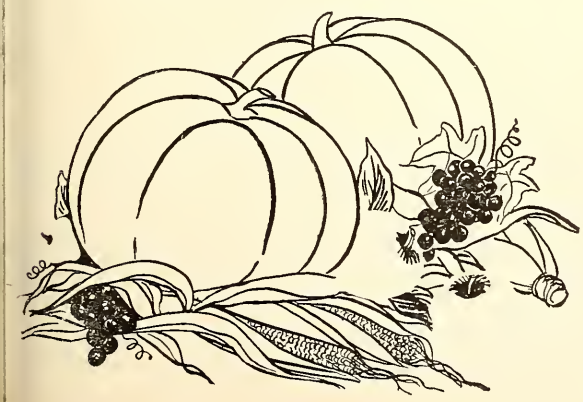
The rapidly changing world situation, which even as we write these words, seems to be changing faster than we can keep up with it, is cause for grave concern by many. Egypt, Israel, England, France, Hungary, Russia—who can predict the situation by the time these words find their way to your home? How true it is that "Yesterday is not today and today is not tomorrow!"

DESIRE.

Men have ever sought to bring about a security in a world which knows little of it. Men would like to bring about a changelessness in a changing world. But do we find it? No! The hymn writer has aptly put it:

"Change and decay in all around I see."

But wait, all is not lost. We turn to God's Holy Word, and we find therein a peace and a way whereby in the face of earth's changing hours, we can enjoy a stability of mind and heart. We are told, "Here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come." We are told that "flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God." Thus we gain the comprehension that our desire for stability comes in a spiritual manner, stabilizing our mind and spirit in an unstable earthly life and assures us of perfect peace and happiness in the world to come.



STRIVING.

We next discover that peace, stability, etc., come to those who "overcome." The Revelation lists the rewards for those who "overcome." Christ also said, "Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me." We learn also that the first Adam was made a living soul; the Second Adam (Christ) a quickening Spirit. Christ also said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

Thus it is that with Desire, we also Strive, for we know that without faith it is impossible to please God. We also know that "faith without works, is dead." Real dead! We are not saved by our works; they are a manifestation and proof of our faith. Ours is a dead faith, if in this present troubled world we do not exercise Christian witness, and Christian service. Now as never before, we are under constraint to present a positive witness of Christian faith in action.

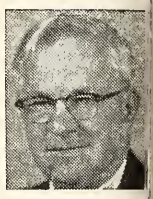
ATTAINMENT.

To the victor is the crown. To the winner of the race, the prize. Attainment, with its benefits goes to those who have, with Desire, striven and who have not grown weary in the strife.

Christian influence is desperately needed right now! The best opportunity we've ever had to be a real Christian friend and brother, is upon us. It may be our last. Let us waste not the precious, opportunity filled hours, to tell men of the saving Christ; to tell men how to live peacefully in Christ. W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**



Frederick County, Maryland, Pioneers

ABOUT THE YEAR 1729 or a little earlier, the Germans first became aware of the beauty and fertility of Frederick County, Maryland. The Port of Philadelphia was the favorite landing place of the German emigrants. Virginia at this time was attempting to attract settlers for her valleys and tideland plains. Many attempting to cross Maryland by the Monocacy route were interested in the well watered terrain. They were attracted by the offers they received and decided to investigate; learning of Lord Baltimore's liberal offer, wherein each family settling upon his territory would receive 200 acres in fee, only paying a rental of 4 shillings for each hundred acres. Since the first payment was not until the end of three years, they wisely decided to go no further and this was the beginning of the movement which soon made Frederick county one of the most prosperous and best cultivated counties in America.

While numbers of various religious persuasions came to the county, it was not long until the Brethren, or as many historians call them, "The Dunkards," soon settled along the water courses and in the beautiful and fertile valleys shut in by the western mountain wall. The writer has been interested in various Historians' description of the Peace churches. Frequently they state in time of war, "all volunteered except the Quakers and the Dunkards." It was hard for Historians to understand the non-resistant people like the Moravians, Quakers, Dunkards and Mennonites.

When the first settlers came they were a long way from eastern sea board civilization. The only protection from danger was the mountain rampart, and unfortunately it had gaps and passes through which the marauding Indian came. Our early forefathers were men of stamina or they would never have challenged the wilderness as they did. Many of the settlers were of course born across the seas in Germany.

We only learn by contrasts, and have no other method of measurement. In these days, with so many labor saving appliances, it might be a help to us to appreciate them, if we will roll back the pages of the years and sojourn with the German settlers in Frederick County.

The home life of the German settlers was simple, an regular. There were few if any drones among then They went to bed early and arose before the sun in th morning. It was not their habit to turn night into da No matter how prosperous the farmer might be the so worked in the fields with him, and the labor was in th main, hand labor. The daughters had their tasks in ai ing their mother and were not above helping at tim with the outside work.

The early settlers were separated by long miles fro market, and roads were in the main, bad. They were to very great extent self sustained in their homes. Th women carded wool, sheared their own flocks, spun into yarn, wove it upon clumsy hand made looms in excellent wearing fabrics. These in turn were dyed a made into garments by the wife and daughters of t farmer. The linsey for the women's dresses was dyed bright colors and a frock or suit of clothes would la for a long time. When it finally wore out it was not di carded but was cut up into carpet rags. Again the ca pet loom was brought into being and lo and behold th which they once wore was now walked upon in the fo of carpets of brilliant colors with substantial weari qualities. The spinning wheel was a part of the fa household, and many of the people were possessors looms. From their own cultivated flax, the women ma their linen; they also made their woolen goods. Th wants were supplied by the independent mechanic. The were no big factories. In each community was to be fou the wagon maker, its shoemaker, its blacksmith, its tink its plow maker and its cabinet maker.

There was little for the thrifty farmer to buy. I wheat was ground into flour in the neighboring m Mills dotted the water courses in time. The Miller to his toll from the grist. The flour was baked into bre in the great bake-oven which stood outside the kitch The bottom of the oven was a large, flat stone or an i plate, and over this was built an arch of stone, wal at the back and with an iron door in the front. The f for baking was made within the oven and when the o became sufficiently heated the coals and the ashes w removed with a scraper, the bottom plate or stone brus

clean and then the bread or pies to be baked were put in with a paddle shaped implement. The door was then closed and the baking was perfect. The writer as a small boy n Ohio "picked" holes in many a loaf after it had come out of the old bake-oven. They were picked on the rear so their discovery would be delayed as long as possible. The German women were famous as good house keepers and provided abundant larders. Needless to state that some of their house keeping customs have come down to the present time.

In early days Frederick was abundantly supplied with apple orchards. Spraying was unnecessary in those days and fruit of all kinds was plentiful. In the autumn the apples were gathered, some buried in the ground after being covered with leaves or straw, some placed in the commodious cellars and the culls made into cider. Much of this cider, when it was sweet was used in making the seasons supply of apple butter. Western Maryland was famous for this product. To make this "butter," great copper kettles, large enough to hold thirty or forty gallons of cider, were used. A kettle was filled about half full of sweet cider and put over a fire to boil. Into the boiling cider a quantity of apples were dumped, after they had been pared and cut into small pieces. After almost endless hours, so it seemed to the writer as a boy, when it had been reduced to the proper consistency, it was then placed in stone crocks. Each stone crock held about a gallon and was carefully placed on the shelf in the store room for future use. So much cider apple butter was made in the Author's boyhood home in Ohio during his boyhood that from that time on it has lost its appeal. In the old days in the German neighborhood the paring and the slicing of apples was made an occasion for a frolic. A supper would be prepared and a number of young people of both sexes would be invited to supper and to do the work. The merry making was final recompense for the labors involved. These affairs were called "Schnitzing Bees"—schnitzen being the name for the sliced apples.

The digging of wells through the rock ribbed part of Frederick County, was a slow and costly work, therefore the settlers built their log, and finally stone houses, close to the streams and springs where water was accessible. The first houses were built of logs and as the people became more prosperous they built them of stone, of which there was an abundance, and of hand made and and fired brick made on the scene. Frederick and Washington Counties, limestone counties, are noted today for their stately limestone houses. The early Germans made the erection of large barns for their stock and equipment their first care. This idea is still found in the German settled sections of Maryland and Pennsylvania. They were first built of logs, later hewn logs and then weather-boarded or made of stone altogether. They were known as "Switzer Barns." The "Raising" of a barn was the occasion for a great gathering of the people of the community. Social events were few and far between and were usually connected with that which was an aid in getting their work done. Work lost much of its edge when it was camouflaged with a frolic. There were husking bees, when the year's crop of corn was shucked, and "quilting bees" where the gaudy colored bed quilts still to be found in the county were made.

Every family had its flock of geese. The old ganders running with outstretched necks hissing savagely were the fear of every small boy. The feathers which were pulled from the squawking geese were used for the needed feather beds and pillows. Bed rooms were seldom warmed and therefore the necessity for warmer beds and voluminous covers.

The Library of the early home was not extensive. It consisted of the Bible and the German hymn book in the main, and the German almanac. Some time after the settlement of the county it was likely that much of their German material was the product of Christopher Saurs Press in Germantown, Pennsylvania. The Saur almanac in those days was what the Gruber almanac, printed in Hagerstown today as it has been for many years, is to the native. The old almanac told the time of the sun rise and the sun setting. This furnished a guide in the setting of their clocks. A person with a watch was a rarity. The phases of the moon were ascertained. This regulated much of the farm work. It was constant practice to do a certain work in the dark of the moon and other work in the light of the moon. Certain vegetables had to be planted in the "upgoing." Then the old clap-board shingles must be placed on the building in the right sign to keep them from curling upward. Butchering must be in the right sign or there is dire consequences. The fence posts must be planted in the right sign or they will come up out of the ground. It would have been just as sacrilegious to question the influence of the moon on the weather as to question the statements of their German Holy Writ.

The great bodies of German settlers were either mechanics or men who were intent on making homes for themselves upon the farms. They were satisfied with small farms which they worked for themselves, and they worked them well. The English speaking peoples came and secured large tracts of land, working them in the main with slave labor. The German settled section of the

(Continued on Page 7)

or BRETHREN HOME MISSIONS during November, an offering EQUAL to our Home Mission Needs, and our ADVANCED Home Mission Program.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

FIVE YEARS AT TUCSON

I WISH YOU COULD ALL have joined us for our fall candlelight communion. It was the tenth one in our church, with one hundred twenty-three communicants—twenty-five more than we prepared for; but we were so happy to make room for all. About thirty of them were attending their first Brethren communion.

With 235 on our Sunday school roll and over 150 in Sunday school ever since our return from Conference, we are again wondering where our next class will meet, and with the exception of the Sanctuary class the rooms are full. We had 167 for our Rally Day.

Our church is nearly full for worship, but by installing pews we will have room for a few more. We can plan for duplicate worship services on Sundays; but we are putting it off as long as possible, because we love the Brethren fellowship of all being together at once, at least for worship.

We have three consecrated couples heading up our active youth groups that plan more activity for our young people than this aging pastor can keep track of.

The Sunday and Wednesday night services are so amply rewarding that it makes the planning of interesting studies and meetings for them each week a joy.

This fall our major emphasis in teaching and preaching is on tithing and the joy of sharing in the Lord's work. We grow in numbers a bit faster than in finances, but we are anxiously looking to the day in the near future when we will be independent of your wonderful gifts and support, with which over the recent years you have helped us get started.

The Ten Dollar Club did it all, and we're now helping to do it for others!

We were happy to hear the Mission Board is offering another valuable service for the brotherhood in the form of a Church Building Consultant. We hope in the near future we will have the opportunity to get some good advice from him for future proposals of expanding our facilities.

We want also to thank the Missionary Board for the excellent care and concern for the pastor's home. The redecoration of the interior this fall shows they are careful for the upkeep of their parsonages and churches both of which they still own in our Tucson congregation.

You and the Board are to be commended for the way you have started and supported the church here. It was NOT a mistake; it was a **wonderful venture** and we would still recommend that it be repeated many times over as a rewarding method in extending His Kingdom.

SUPPORT YOUR MISSIONS—"He that converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death."

Rev. Vernon D. Grisso.

WHAT ABOUT PHOENIX?

Reverend Vernon Grisso

FOR NINE MONTHS, about every thirty to sixty days, I have been spending a day or two in the Phoenix area (120 miles from Tucson), searching out and contacting Brethren who have moved there. In that time we have found approximately fifty Brethren or former Brethren. No one can estimate how many more are there that we know nothing about. In a growing community of about 300,000 people, our brief contacts have been on the surface at best.

At present, Reverend Carl Grove, a former Brethren from Milford, Indiana, and a minister in the United Missionary Church (now unattached) is interested in and working with our people between our intermittent visits. They are holding services at the Pulaski Club, 4331 E. McDowell Road, each Sunday at 10:00 and 11:00 o'clock. It is only a trial period of one month. Phoenix is a point for prayers of the entire Brotherhood that the Lord may lead us to meet the needs of His work in a great city.

Our Tucson Brethren are desirous of having a sister church somewhere in our state that would ease the situation of isolationism from fellowship. Some of these Brethren at Phoenix are yearning for a church of their own. Many are attending other churches; whereas still other have joined other denominations.

Such a situation should not be disregarded. The Brethren should not be allowed to be completely absorbed by other churches; yet, until we have a church in the area, we cannot expect too much attraction, loyalty or enthusiasm for our own denomination.

KEEP THE CARDS COMING

When your church has chosen a representative for promoting the TEN DOLLAR CLUB, please see that the name is sent to the committee named on the card which pastors and church secretaries received, together with a letter, some time ago.

CO-OPERATION IS THE WORD, if we are to reach that goal of 2,000 members.

Committee: E. M. Riddle,
J. D. Hamel,
Everett Miller.

FREDERICK COUNTY MARYLAND PIONEERS

(Continued from Page 5)

Valley of Virginia, the Shenandoah, was not a slave holding section of the country. There were some but they were few indeed.

Among the many names of the German Baptist people, as they were called years ago, was a family connected for many generations with the church. The name of the family was Harshman. The first Harshman came from Germany and was one of the early settlers of the Middletown Valley. This is one of Maryland's most beautiful and fertile valleys. It lays between Braddock's Height on the east and South Mountain on the west. It was the favorite spot of the early German settlers. It was from this valley that the thrifty German people chased the purveyors of the first friction match which had been made in Thurmont. They said they did not want their barns burned. Just to pass through it is to appreciate their good judgment in their choice of location. It was in this valley that the progenitor of the Harshmans settled. The original Harshman was a "Dunkard" preacher and instilled his virtues into his family. His descendants were some of the most thrifty and extensive land holders in Frederick County. The Harshman and the Grossnickle family intermarried, giving a strong background for the German Baptist Churches of the county. John E. Harshman was a great grandson of the original Harshman. There are among his descendants a son one Emerson Harshman, who lives not far from the St. James community. It was the privilege of the writer to baptize him and receive him into membership of the St. James Brethren Church, his wife coming by letter from another Brethren church.

The name of Grossnickle plays a prominent part in the early life of the Brethren people in Middletown Valley. David Grossnickle, long Pastor of the Beaver Dam church, was born in Middletown Valley, December 7, 1828.

The Middletown Valley congregation of the Brethren is the oldest congregation in Frederick County. In 1756 Daniel Leatherman, an ordained Elder in the church came from York County, Pennsylvania, and settled in the northern part of the valley. Others soon came and in 1760 the Middletown Valley Church was organized with 15 members. Unfortunately for the Historian, early records were lost and no doubt were fragmentary and therefore we have suffered an irreparable loss. The church grew slowly and from 1760 until 1800 they had no places of worship other than their homes or large barns.

Another old Church in Frederick County is Beaver Dam, which is located between Johnsville and Union Bridge. It is approximately one mile off the state highway in a wooded dell, which speaks of more peace than was always to be found. For in the same vicinity is another church with Dunker ancestry which was born of strife. The first Frederick County church with Dunker ancestry was built in the present hamlet of Harmony about 1800. The names of Harshman, Grossnickle and Leatherman were among the leading Elders. The house was small but it served its purpose for nearly a half century. In 1847 a house was built in the valley by the rippling Catoctin creek. In 1899 the present large commodious house was built of brick, and serves the community well. The church honored some of its pioneers by giving it the name of Grossnickle. Upon the hillside just back of it rest from their labors many whose names are familiar and who gave of their all that there might be preserved a faith.

It might be well to list some of the Elders of other days. We have mentioned some and need not relist them. Christian Harshman, preached mostly in German. There were among the Elders of yesterday, Ezra Gilbert, Daniel Boyer, Daniel P. Saylor, George Grossnickle who moved to North Manchester, Indiana about the time of the Civil War, Jonathan Baker and the Evangelist gifted in song, Daniel F. Stouffer. He led many of the song services at the Annual Meetings and perhaps the last was when the Conference was held in Frederick, Maryland, in June 1897. Then there were later Ministers, namely John Bussard, George S. Harp, and Charles Ausherman. We shall not pass up Solomon Stoner, George Sappington, David Stones, Daniel Metz, Calvin Main and Jesse Kline of modern days.

The Church at Myersville is of interest to the writer because there was brought from Schwarzenau a stone which has been imbedded in the foundation. It speaks of early days in Germany when the church was born.

Time and space, and the patience of the reader would be too short to list in detail more regarding the numerous churches of the County. It is our desire to give the beginning along with a pen picture of the life and surroundings of days now in the unrecallable past. Pages of early histories and early traditions handed down by early writers throw much light upon the lives of our forefathers. Looking back we see only the bright and more pleasant side of their lives. We realize little of the struggles they had, with Indians and the wilderness on every hand. Far from their home land they were to find graves in the wilderness and many of them sleep today in unmarked graves upon the land where they labored, sacrificed and died.

The writer is inclined to feel that we take too lightly our blessings of the day, and do not give to those who made our existence as a church possible, the full measure of devotion that they deserve.

St. James, Maryland.

BRING THE NEED

A man once went into a chemist's shop and said: "If you please, mister, can you give me something for a bad cold?"

The chemist said: "Have you brought a prescription with you?"

No," I ain't no got no prescription with me, but I've brought my cold with me to be cured."

How often sinners, seeking a cure for sin, try to bring their prescription to God! But He asks for nothing, save that the sinner should say, "Just as I am without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me."—Sel.

What's Doing in the Churches

NEW PARIS, INDIANA

The New Paris, Brethren Church, on September 23rd, chose by open ballot two deacons and two deaconesses. The Pastor read appropriate scripture and gave ample explanation concerning the method of procedure and the duties of these offices. These two couples both of whom are earnest and reliable people of the church will be set apart for this special service at an evening hour, as soon as possible.

Rally Day and Home Coming was observed September 30th. A goodly number of former members and friends returned for the day. Lovely decorations, good attendance, excellent music and a bounteous dinner helped to make it a pleasant day. There was an afternoon service at which time the Middesingers of Middlebury (a chorus of fifteen voices) gave a most excellent program. During the service greetings were brought by the Reverend W. Irvin Duker now a resident of Milford and by Reverend Woodrow Immel of New Paris, serving the Milford church. The Pastor also spoke briefly of the occasion.

E. M. Riddle.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND

Our Thirtieth Annual Homecoming is now history. All three of our services were largely attended. Friends attended from Chicago, Ill.; Baltimore, Hagerstown, St. James, Maryland; Waynesboro, York, Penna; and from the local community and nearby communities. The Governor, along with his wife, driven by a Corporal, were on time for the evening meal and for the evening service. The services of the day, we are sure, were an inspiration and a blessing to all. Our Communion was held the evening of World Wide Communion Day, with 65 present.

Bruce C. Shanholtz, Pastor.

REVIVAL AT TEEGARDEN, INDIANA

The writer has just returned from his vacation and would like to share with Evangelist readers a few of his experiences. Our "vacation" was spent at Teegarden, Indiana, where we were privileged to lead the Brethren in their revival services, and we feel that it was a vacation well-spent.

Although not a large church, numerically, the Teegarden Brethren Church is giving a good account of itself in the community and area in which it is located. Here is a group of men and women who are Brethren in every sense of the word—not only in their church affiliation but also in their relationships with one another! They are loyal to the local church; they are loyal to the denomination; and above all they are loyal to their Lord.! It was a real treat to this preacher to stand before these folks night after night and to be able to bring the message of God's Word to them. The Teegarden Brethren believe that the preached word should "comfort the afflicted, and afflict the comfortable," and it was a source of real joy to the evangelist to be encouraged from time to time by an enthusiastic "Amen" from the congregation.

During the two weeks we were able to get into the homes of a number of folks in the community who have never made a confession of faith in Christ or who are not active in any church. Frankly, the writer was surprised to discover the great potential with which this congregation has to work. We do not recall ever having been in a rural community in which there was a larger number of "prospects" than there is at this place. During the first week of the meeting various laymen of the congregation served as "guides" to the evangelist, taking him from place to place in our visitation campaign. The second week the good pastor, Brother Edgar Berkshire, was able to take over these responsibilities and proved to be a very capable and conscientious co-laborer in this revival effort.

The attendances, although not spectacular, were steady with twenty-five folks having perfect or near perfect attendance. The young people of the church were faithful to the services and took the initiative in planning a "Youth Night" during the second week of the meeting. We appreciated the presence of delegations from our County Line and North Liberty churches as well as those from surrounding churches of other denominations. The hospitality of these folks matches that of Brethren people everywhere! The pastor and evangelist "fared sumptuously every day." The evangelist made his home during these two weeks with Brother and Sister Jay Holland, a fine Christian couple with whom many of our pastors are acquainted. These folks, like the husband and wife of Shunem, have a room prepared and reserved for visiting or traveling pastors and evangelists.

Much emphasis was placed upon the "revival" note during these two weeks, although the evangelistic was also stressed. It has been our feeling for some time now that if all of the church members in any given congregation were revived—if all of them could be brought to see and recognize their responsibility to the Lord who saved them—if all of them could be made to take seriously the words of Jesus, "I shall make you to become fishers of men"; if all church people could come to the realization of the urgency to witness and to testify for their Lord and Saviour, then the work of evangelism would not be limited to a two week period, it would not be limited to the pastor and a visiting evangelist, but it would become the work of every born again church member fifty-two weeks out of every year! We felt that a definite spirit of revival entered the hearts of these people during this special campaign—Many of the folks spoke of it themselves. On the closing day of the meeting we saw visible results of our efforts as six adult

came forward to dedicate and consecrate their lives to the Lord. The writer feels confident that the enthusiasm and the spirit of revival which were so noticeable during this campaign will continue to work in the Teegarden Church and community for many weeks to come.

We take this opportunity to thank all of those who supported the services with their prayers throughout the brotherhood; and we take this opportunity to thank the Teegarden Brethren for their very generous Love Gift to the evangelist. May the Lord continue to work in the Brethren Church through men and women who love Him, who love His Word, who live for Him, and who look for His coming again.

Henry Bates, Evangelist.

TOPEKA, KANSAS

Hello! All you Brethren out there. Greetings!!!

Thought maybe you might want to know something about us who used to be active for 39 years, in five different states. We are retired now for four years, living near Topeka, Kansas, in a Trailer House. Both wife and my general health is quite good most of the time. Not Dead, But Alive!

Recently a man from Ohio attending the Central District Conference, referred to me as being dead. Nope, not so. We too attended the Central Conference and enjoyed seeing folks from Ashland, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa. It was our old stomping ground at Udell. We enjoyed it to the full.

From sod house to State House! As a boy I lived in a sod house for 20 years; went to school three terms in a sod school house. Years passed and in the last three and a half years we have been employed in the State House as Guide and Information. We meet people from many parts of the world, all over the United States and part of Missouri. Our small salary thus helps to keep us out of the "red,"—and that's sumpin in these high priced times.

We are happy that the Brethren are making progress in different ways and places. Both at Ashland and otherwise. Good deal.

We attend Sunday school and Church somewhere each week, but don't get out much of week nights. Get to witness for our Lord in many ways.

After six weeks of extremely dry weather, some rain has come to bless and nourish the soil.

The Lord's blessings on you all.

Rev. and Mrs. W. R. Deeter, R. 5.

MEXICO, INDIANA

On October 7th, Rev. Ralph Miller, recently ordained at College Corner, preached his first sermon as pastor of the Mexico Brethren Church. He and his wife expect to move to Mexico and conduct services each Sunday. For many years the church has been on an every-other-Sunday worship basis.

The forward step of every-Sunday-worship with a pastor on the field will promote spiritual and numerical growth for this splendid, but small congregation. For the past four and three-quarters years, Mrs. Swihart and I have enjoyed the fine fellowship of the Mexico Brethren. We wish them God's blessing as they engage in fuller service with their new pastor.

Wayne E. Swihart, Former Pastor.

TIOSA, INDIANA

At a recent business meeting, the Tiosa Brethren congregation decided to hold worship each Sunday morning and every-other-Sunday evening. The church, for many years, had worship services each two weeks.

It has been a pleasure to serve the Tiosa Brethren on a part time basis for the past five years. Mrs. Swihart and I are looking forward to more service, fellowship and leadership under the new plan. Dr. Glenn L. Clayton gave the afternoon Homecoming address on October 7th. His presence was appreciated very much.

A new exterior bulletin board will be dedicated soon to Mrs. Maud Rohrer and her parents (all deceased).

You will hear more from this active congregation in the future.

Wayne E. Swihart, Pastor.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

"GREATNESS AND GOODNESS"

"Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house." Deuteronomy 6:7.

IN AN ADDRESS some time since, President Dwight D. Eisenhower quoted a statement of a nineteenth century Frenchman, Tocqueville, which was as follows: "America is great because America is good; and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great." The famous Frenchman certainly voiced an incontrovertible truth in that statement. And such a statement would be true of any nation.

If any nation is to be good, her citizens must live Christian lives. And this Christian living must be done in the homes and the business world as surely as in the churches. It is certainly the business and responsibility of parents and all adults to teach children, by precept and example, to live for Christ.

And it appeals to this commentator that successful home life is not determined by the accumulation of things —possessions. It is evaluated by the degree of faith to be found in the home, faith which enables the members of the family to carry out the family duties with happiness and love, each toward the other, as God would have them do. When Christ dwells in a home, there will be found husband, wife and children with a deep mutual love and devotion for each other.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO, BRETHREN CHURCH ENGAGED IN BUILDING ADDITION PROGRAM

(Picture on Page One)

THE NEW LEBANON, Ohio, Brethren Church is engaged in a building expansion program which will include a large Educational addition to the rear of the present edifice. Small additions are also being constructed at the front of the church which will bring the front corners of the church out flush with the present vestibule entrance. An enlarged parking lot to the rear of the new addition is also in the plans. The picture on the front page of this Evangelist shows the architect's drawing of the present church building and the additional construction. Looking at the picture, we see in the center, the south side of the present building; to the left side, we see one of the new corner additions at the front of the church; and to the right, the new Educational addition.

Pastor John T. Byler reports very fine progress on the corner additions, and that the walls of the educational building are rapidly going up.

Cornerstone Laying Service

Approximately 250 people were present when New Lebanon Brethren laid the cornerstone for the new addition, on August 26th. Each person was asked to sign his name to a list which was then included as a part of the contents of the metal box that was inserted in the stone.

Instead of the usual sermon, a report was read—taken from a historical sketch written by Rev. L. V. King, a former pastor, for the 20th Anniversary Service of the Church. The pastor added to this report, tying in the more important historical events in the church's history since the time of the 20th Anniversary Service. In closing the report, an effort was made to challenge the congregation to its privileges of continuing to build upon Christ, the Chief Cornerstone, for the benefit of the community in which we live.

After singing the hymn, "The Solid Rock" the congregation adjourned to the outside where the Cornerstone was fitted into place and sealed by Mark Humphrey—a member of the Building Committee. After the singing of the Doxology the service was ended with a Benediction.

The brass box which was used for the inside of the stone was made and presented to the Church, without cost, for this special service by Lester H. Campbell.

Contents of the Cornerstone

Church History: Part I—L. V. King; Part II—J. T. Byler.

Bible: Presented by John Eck.

Church Publications: Weekly Mail; W. M. S. and S. M. M. News; Church Bulletin.

Copies of Sunday School Literature used in our school.

Lists of Church and Sunday School Officers; Sunday School Teachers; Building Committee; Finance Board; Trustees.

Names of Contributors to the Building Fund; Those in attendance at the Cornerstone Laying Service.

Organized Class Reports: The Home Builders; The Rainbow Class; The Crusaders; The Gospel Learners.

Reports of Auxiliary Organization: Laymen; Sr. W. M. S.; Jr. W. M. S.; Sr. Sisterhood; Jr. Sisterhood; Brotherhood.

Church Action and dates regarding the building effort.

The Current Annual Budget.

DEFINITION:

Cross Country Conference is a simultaneous conference on STEWARDSHIP conducted in every church in the denomination at the same time.

TIME:

January 18, 19, 20, 1957. You may conduct the conference over this three-day period in any way your church decides.

LEADERSHIP:

Your own pastor may exchange pastorates with another pastor, or ask some leader to come in and conduct the conference, or he may ask some qualified Layman in the congregation to be the leader.

SUPPORT:

1. You must help your minister in this project.
2. See that the conference is announced in your church right now.
3. Pray about this simultaneous conference now.
4. Set the dates down on your church calendar.

SOME MINISTERS ARE ALREADY MAKING THEIR PLANS—DON'T DELAY YOUR PLANS.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

MANSFIELD, OHIO. Church Secretary, Mrs. H. Longshore, sends the following news: "Rev. John J. Terrell, a student in the Seminary at Ashland, has accepted the call of the Brethren Church at Mansfield, Ohio, and has moved with his wife and daughter into the parsonage at 508 Bowman Street."

Revival Services, November 4th through 18th, are being conducted in the Mansfield church by Rev. Tom Wells, Evangelist, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Brother Terrell reports Rally Day attendance of 101, with 107 the Sunday following.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Our sympathies and prayers to Brother Spencer Gentle in the passing of his father at Wichita, Kansas, on October 10th. Brother Gentle says they were called to Wichita because of his father's serious illness, but that he passed away just a few hours before they arrived.

COLLEGE CORNER BRETHREN, WABASH, INDIANA. Homecoming Services were held on October 14th, with Brother O. C. Lemert as speaker at the afternoon service.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henry Bates, in commenting on their average Sunday school attendance says: "Our average attendance during the last Sunday school year was 224 as compared with the previous high of 204 in 1951-52."

Brother Bert Hodge was the North Manchester Homecoming speaker on October 14th.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Baptismal services were held the afternoon of October 27th.

BRIGHTON CHAPEL BRETHREN, HOWE, INDIANA. Brother Spencer Gentle was the speaker at the Brighton Chapel Homecoming afternoon service on October 28th.

PERU, INDIANA. Brother Robert Madoski was Radio Devotional speaker over WARU, October 29th through November 2nd.

Brother Madoski, in a report to his congregation on the first four months of his pastorate, says, in part, "Decisions during this time include four first time decisions and one rededication. The total number of members taken into the Church from June 1st to October 1st is ten. Eight members were taken in by baptism, and two by letter."

OAKVILLE, INDIANA. Brother Robert Madoski was the afternoon speaker at Homecoming services on October 14th.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. A "Family Day Worship Service" was held on October 14th. This is to be a regular emphasis on the second Sunday of each month.

The various classes and organizations will prepare and present the worship portions of the evening services in a new series of Sunday evening services this fall and winter.

COMING EVENTS

MANSFIELD, OHIO. Homecoming—**November 18th**—Basket dinner, following morning services, in Johns' Park at noon. Afternoon service with special music. Mrs. H. Longshore, Church Secretary.

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. Revival Services—**Beginning November 21st**—Curt Emmons Evangelistic Party; Rev. W. E. Thomas, Pastor.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Homecoming and 70th Anniversary Day—**November 25th**—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Pastor.

FLORA, INDIANA. Evangelistic Services—**Beginning November 11th**—Rev. N. V. Leatherman, Evangelist; Rev. C. A. Stewart, Pastor.

ASHLAND, OHIO. Park Street Brethren. Evangelistic Meeting—**November 12-18**—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Evangelist; Rev. Clarence Fairbanks, Pastor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Revival Meetings—**November 5-18**—Rev. William Anderson, Evangelist; Rev. Spencer Gentle, Pastor.

SOUTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT LAYMEN'S RALLY

The Southern Indiana District Laymen will hold their regular quarterly meeting at the Mexico Brethren Church on Monday evening, November 19th. We wish to urge a good attendance from all churches in the District, as election of Officers will be made for the coming year. Also a program of real interest. Plan to come and enjoy real fellowship.

Supper will be served from 6:00 to 7:30 P. M. prevailing time. Send reservations to: Mrs. James Donaldson, R. R. 3, Peru, Indiana.

C. E. Keplinger, Sec'y.

PASTOR NEEDED

Due to the sudden serious illness of Rev. E. J. Black, he was compelled to resign as pastor of the Muncie church. If the Lord speaks to some Brethren Minister to be our pastor, please write to:

Mrs. Rosa Richey,
1321 East First St.,
Muncie, Indiana

FULL TIME PASTOR DESIRED

We would like to hear from a Brethren Minister who would be interested in a full time pastorate at Udell. Address:

Mrs. H. B. Spreng, Church Secretary,
Udell, Iowa.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

LORD, MANY TIMES I AM AWEARY QUITE

Lord, many times I am aweary quite
  Of mine own self, my sin, my vanity;
Yet be not Thou, or I am lost outright,
  Weary of me!

And hate against myself I often bear,
  And enter with myself in fierce debate.
Take Thou my part against myself, nor share
  In that just hate.

Best friends might loathe us, if what things perverse,
  We know of our own selves, they also knew;
Lord, Holy One! if Thou Who knowest worse,
  Should loathe us too!

—Richard Chenevix Trench.

IF WE CHRISTIANS say that we have no sin, we are mistaken (1 John 1:8). They who claim that they are without sin do not know their own nature (Jer. 17:9). Anyone who is alive on the earth is in the flesh and is under sin (Rom. 3:9-12). There is none good but God (Matt. 19:16, 17).

According to Romans 7:15-25 the Christian is in a real battleground struggle between his old nature and the new. These conflicts are not merely of the past but are always of the present. As long as we are in this flesh we are in the battleground. 1 John 3:6-9 deals with the Christian's twofold nature. Salvation for the body will occur in the resurrection of the righteous (Rom. 8:18-23). Meanwhile we do well to guard against sin (1 Cor. 11:30-32). It behooves us to keep our sins confessed and under the blood of Jesus Christ (1 John 7:1-9; 2:1, 2).

Lot sinned greatly by not living a separated life (2 Peter 2:7-9). David fell into terrible transgressions (Psalm 51:1-3). Peter wavered, even after Pentecost (Gal. 2:11-14). Christians are not too good to have sorrow for sin (Psalm 51:6-10). We are not to give ourselves to comparison with some whom we think are weaker than we are (2 Cor. 10:12). The Lord's daily Prayer requires that we ask for forgiveness (Luke 11:4). Not to be constantly in prayer (1 Thess. 5:17), not to be missionary. (Matt. 28:19, 20), not to be fully in the faith (Rom. 14:2), is to be guilty of the sin of omission (James 4:17). Let us remember that we have not yet arrived (Phil. 3:12-14)!

In the still air the music lies unheard;
  In the rough marble beauty hides unseen;
To wake the music and the beauty, needs
  The master's touch, the sculptor's chisel keen.

Great Master, touch us with Thy skillful hand!
  Let not the music that is in us die;
Great Sculptor, hew and polish us, nor let,
  Hidden and lost, Thy form within us lie!

Spare not the stroke, do with us as Thou wilt,
  Let there be nought unfinished, broken, marred!
Complete Thy purpose that we may become
  Thy perfect image, Our God and Lord!

—Horatius Bonar.

Our assurance is not in ourselves but in Him Who does not fall.

"It fortifies my soul to know
That, though I perish, Truth is so:
That, howsoe'er I stray and range,
Whate'er I do, Thou dost not change.
I steadier step when I recall
That, if I slip, Thou dost not fall."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for November 11, 1956

WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE?

Lesson: Micah 4:1-5; 6:6-8

THERE IS A right direction in which men should travel. There are requirements which the Lord God hath set down. What are they?

The Prophet Micah will aid us in answering this question. He was an Old Testament Prophet of Judah, a contemporary with Isaiah, who ministered just prior to Judah's exile.

They were evil days in which Micah lived. Judgment had already come to Syria and the Northern Kingdom of Israel as a result of their sin. Judah was not much better. Her leaders were corrupt. They were crying "Peace" when destruction was at hand (3:5). The Judges of the land were taking bribes, while the Priests were selling their services instead of freely ministering to those in need (3:11).

But the people themselves were not guiltless. Greed and covetousness were rampant (2:1); thus judgment was pronounced upon them because of "the sins of the house of Israel" (1:5)

In spite of this chaotic condition which existed in the land, Micah was able to confidently speak of a future day when there would be no sin and when God would rule. "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established."

Prosperity will also be the order of that day, for "in the last days" every man shall sit "under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid."

War will be no more, for peace shall overflow the world. "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

All this God will some day bring to pass for His people. Does He not then require anything of His people in return? What are His requirements for those who bear His name?

"Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God?" asked Micah. Is God interested in burnt-offerings, or "will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil?" Will the presentation of my children be accepted by God for my transgression and sin?

No, for outward works of the flesh cannot suffice for sin. God's perfect Sacrifice—Jesus Christ—is the only answer. Put your trust in His finished work on the cross, and then go forth and walk in obedience to His Word.

Micah says God's requirements are:

1. **"Do justly."** Walk uprightly before God and your fellowmen.

2. **"Love mercy."** Frank S. Mead gives this story of Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross. She was reminded of an especially cruel thing which was done to her years before. Seemingly she was unable to recall the incident. "Don't you remember it?" asked the friend. Miss Barton replied, "No, I distinctly remember forgetting it!"

3. **"To walk humbly with thy God."** The man of God who strives to walk humbly with God will find as did Enoch that such action is pleasing to Him!

"The most solemn thing in the world is man's accountability to God!"

Lesson for November 18, 1956

QUALITIES OF A CHRISTIAN

Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

A CHRISTIAN is one who has become a partaker "of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world" (II Peter 1:4). He is one of the "sons of God" of which the Apostle John speaks (I John 3:1). Through the transforming work of Jesus Christ he has been made a "new creation" (A.S.V.—II Cor. 5:17).

God's plan for the Christian's life is that he might "be conformed to the image of His Son" (Rom. 8:29), and spiritually outfitted for the Kingdom of Heaven.

To be prepared for the Heavenly City requires both a **crisis** and a **process.** By a definite act of the will and surrender of the heart the sinner enters into the Christian life. This is the **crisis** experience. But that is not enough! It is then necessary for him to **grow** in the Christian life until he becomes a mature Saint of God. This is the **process.**

In the Sermon on the Mount, as found in Matthew 5-6-7, Christ was setting forth God-like qualities which should characterize the Christian. He was addressing the disciples even though the multitude stood by to listen. Perhaps He desired that the world (the multitude) should be conscious of the high standard of Christianity imposed by God.

The words of our Lord are not readily understood nor easily obeyed. To attain unto Godly perfection demands the Christian's utmost and the strength and aid of the Holy Spirit.

Space does not permit the inclusion of all the Beatitudes. We will merely comment on a few. Hear the words of the Master:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." A most enlightening observation is made

(Continued on Page 15)

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

I VOTED TO CLOSE THE CHURCH

"LAST SUNDAY I voted to close the church; not intentionally, nor maliciously, perhaps, but carelessly, thoughtlessly, indifferently, I voted. I voted to close its doors that its witness and its testimony might be stopped. I voted to close the open Bible on its pulpit—the Bible that had been given us by years of struggle and by the blood of martyrs who died that we might have it to read. I voted for our minister to stop preaching the glorious truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I voted that the children of the Sunday school no longer should be taught the stories of the Bible and no longer should lift their tiny voices in singing,

Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so.

I voted for the voice of the choir and of the congregation to be stilled, and that they should no longer sing in united praise,

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall,
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

"I voted for every missionary of the church to be called home, every native worker supported by the church to stop preaching, every hospital, every school and every dispensary in its foreign missionary fields to close. I voted that its colleges should close their doors and no longer bother to train its youth for Christian service. I voted for every home missionary project to be abandoned, every influence for good and right and for truth in our community to be curtailed and finally stopped. I voted for the darkness of superstition, the degrading influence of sin, the blight of ignorance and the curse of selfish greed once again to settle their damning load on the shoulders of an already overburdened world.

"I voted all this, I say, and more too—things that the human mind cannot grasp and the human tongue cannot find words to express. Carelessly, thoughtlessly, lazily, indifferently, I voted.

"For, you see, I could have gone and I should have gone, but I didn't. I stayed away from Sunday school and church last Sunday."

(Written by a pastor who was troubled over absentees. Reprinted from "Link.")

BILLY GRAHAM VISITS WITH J. D. HAMEL

by J. D. Hamel

BILLY GRAHAM SPEAKS AT WINONA LAKE. Billy Graham, second from right, visited Winona Lake, Ind., to speak at a Youth for Christ International convention. With him, left to right, are Dr. Robert Cook of Chicago, president of Youth for Christ International; Rev. J. D. Hamel, pastor of the First Brethren Church, South Bend, Ind., and Mrs. Graham.

Winona Lake, Ind. Dr. Billy Graham, world famed evangelist who has talked face to face with more than 1½ million persons this year, believes that teen agers are too often treated like children.

Here to speak at the 12th Youth For Christ International Convention in Billy Sunday Tabernacle, he told a press conference which I attended that the present generation of teen agers is maturing much more rapidly and should be treated more like adults.

"TEENS HUNGRY FOR GOD." Dr. Graham's activities this year have included an eight-week tour of the Far East, where more than a million persons heard him. The top crowd was 100,000 in Kotayam, India. He came to Winona Lake after conducting crusades in Richmond, Va., and Oklahoma City, Okla., where over 20,000 people attended the services every night for four weeks in succession, with over 50,000 at the closing service.

Dr. Graham told me that he was of the opinion that teen agers are far more spiritually minded, "far hungrier for God" than they are given credit.

He said 3,000 teen agers "came forward to receive Christ" in Oklahoma City and the same number in Richmond.

Dr. Graham believes that young people are apparently getting into more mischief these days because they have too much idle time on their hands, because they do not have to work.

"I didn't have time to race around in hot rods," he sai He also added, "Then, there is a lack of discipline in ou homes. Parents show a lack of love for their childre when they don't make use of discipline. When I was boy I didn't tell my folks I didn't want to go to churc I knew that I was expected to go, and I went. We nee an example set in the home. The child sees the inco sistencies and hypocrisies of his parents: then he go out and gets in trouble."

Turning to churches, Dr. Graham believes that the have lost "sinner contact; that church people have e hibited a tendency to draw within themselves." He al said that he believes that "good people seem to be ge ting better and bad people are getting worse, but he al could see a deepening of religious interest—a depth those coming to Christ."

The most interesting statement which he made w that he had seen "spotty indications" in various church of a genuine revival.

Accompanying Dr. Graham to Winona Lake were h wife, Ruth, whom he met while both were students Wheaton, Ill., and song leader Cliff Barrows and Geor Beverly Shea.

—South Bend, Indiana.

(This article and picture appeared in the South Be Tribune July 5th).

Sunday School Lesson Comments

(Continued from Page 13)

on this verse by William G. Moorehead: "The foundation of all is the first beatitude . . . It is the door into the kingdom. It means neither penury, nor self-imposed poverty, nor pusillanimity. It means spiritual bankruptcy. One enters the kingdom as an insolvent, as one who has come to the end of self, as one who comes to the Lord Jesus as a total bankrupt."

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

Well has St. Paul said, "The foolishness of God is wiser than men" (I Cor. 1:25). The men of this world scoff at meekness. It has come to signify that which is weak and spineless. **But in God's economy the meek are exalted!**

Moses, with whom the Lord spoke "face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend," was described as being "very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth." (Exodus 33:11—Num. 12:3). Jesus Christ said of Himself: "For I am meek and lowly in heart" (Matt. 11:29). Some day the meek shall inherit the earth!

To those persecuted for righteousness' sake He gives this promise: **"Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven."** A literal paraphrase of this verse would read: "Continue to rejoice and to leap for ecstasy: for your reward will be great in God's Kingdom."

Of the Children of God much is **expected**, for much shall be **given**. The song writer was right when he wrote:

"It will be worth it all,
When I see Jesus;
It will be worth it all,
When I see Him!"

Gil Dodds, the great miler, whom the sports writers have dubbed "The Flying Parson," addressed 18,000 young people in packed Madison Square Garden a few years ago. This was part of his thrilling testimony on that occasion:

"I have had many thrills in this Garden, particularly three weeks ago when I broke the world's record for the mile. But that is nothing to the thrill that I get of standing before you in this same place, and telling you about the Saviour whom I love and serve. While I enjoy running, I realize that there is a much more important race upon which we are all engaged. That is the race that I want to engage all my ransomed powers. And at the end I want to receive not the acclaim of the galleries, but the quiet approval of the Lord Himself, as He says, 'Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord'."

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

CHRISTIAN LIVING

Prov. 3:5-6. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

RECENTLY we were at the Brethren's Home for services. In the short talk my husband gave, he made the statement that "we are like a book open and read by all men." I thought to myself, how true that is and how important it is for Christians to live their daily lives so they can be easily recognized as such. There are some who hold responsible positions in the church and are gifted and can make beautiful prayers, yet in their daily living do not always follow the Golden Rule. They cast an unpleasant shadow on fellow Christians, saying nothing of impressions given to the unsaved.

The above scripture has become more beautiful to me since listening to the Ambassador Quartet sing it about a year ago. I have memorized it and often quote it when called upon for a passage of scripture impromptu. It always comes to my mind in the form of musical notes.

In speaking of the Ambassador Quartet, we were again privileged to have them in our church in Flora, Indiana, and to listen to the blending of their voices in such beautiful harmony. The thought of the "Open book" came very vividly to my mind when we entertained them in our home, for they conducted themselves in gentlemanly fashion, but more than that, their sincere and genuine love for our Heavenly Father was so manifest that it could be seen and felt. Their lives were an open book.

Usually we are unaware when our lives are being read by some one. But if we trust in the Lord and listen and allow Him to direct us in our daily living, we will not be caught on the short end of the scales, for He will shine through us in everything we do.

Mrs. C. A. Stewart,
Flora, Indiana.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

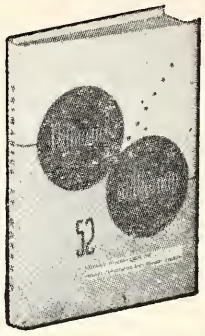
HOME MISSION OFFERING

Make checks payable to the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

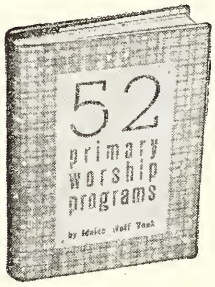
Worship Books for Primaries and Juniors

PRIMARIES AT WORSHIP



Primary leaders will welcome this brand-new book of 52 assembly programs which have been prepared and actually used in Primary worship services. Every program emphasizes a Bible truth and is presented by correlating songs and Scriptures, by visual-aid methods such as chalk talks, flannelgraph lessons, object lessons, and finger puppets. There are two complete shadow puppet shows—Christmas and Easter—in the back of the book. Some program titles are: Following Jesus, God Forgives Us, All Things Possible, Prayer Is the Key, God's Beautiful Colors, etc. Ideal for the Primary Department, the Primary church, and V. B. S., as well as weekday and Sunday evening classes.

No. 3100 ..... **$2.00**



52 PRIMARY WORSHIP PROGRAMS

By Idalee Wolf Vonk. Each program includes an object lesson, a Bible story, and a modern story. Different theme each month, with missionary studies to be used on fifth Sundays. Beautifully written calls to worship and offertory prayers. May be used for weekday or Sunday-night course, or for vacation Bible school. 286 pages.

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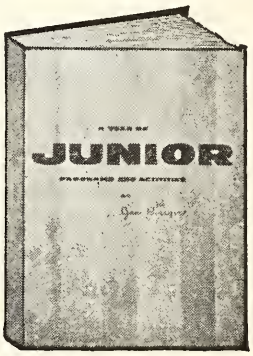
A YEAR OF JUNIOR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



Presenting a book of 52 pupil participation type of programs plus handwork, quizzes, playlets and stories sure to make a hit with this effervescent group. Programs are keyed for the month in which they will be presented. For example, some September program titles are: School Days Program, Campfire Program. For December: A Great Feast, Let's Make Christmas Gifts, Christmas Carols, Jesus Is Born, and Let's Look at Ourselves. The size is 8½ x 11 inches and each book is perforated so program material may be easily distributed. Suggested illustrations for posters or other publicity aids are included.

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By Idalee Wolf Vonk. 52 Junior worship programs, each with an object lesson and story. Lesson themes are based on Luke 2: 52, with each program developing one character quality in which boys and girls should "grow" each day. Numerous playlets, poems, and four special-day programs included. 256 pages.

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JUNIOR WORSHIP. By Ada Rose Demerest. Fifty-two worship programs, each about twenty minutes long and complete in itself. 240 pages. **No. 2981** ..... **Price, $2.25**

TEACHING THROUGH WORSHIP. By Ann Morgan. Forty-nine programs that teach the fundamental truths of God's Word. 154 pages. **No. 3233** ..... **Price, $1.75**

On all book orders please add ten cents for postage.

The Brethren Publishing Company
524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

MANCHESTER COLLEGE LIBRARY
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

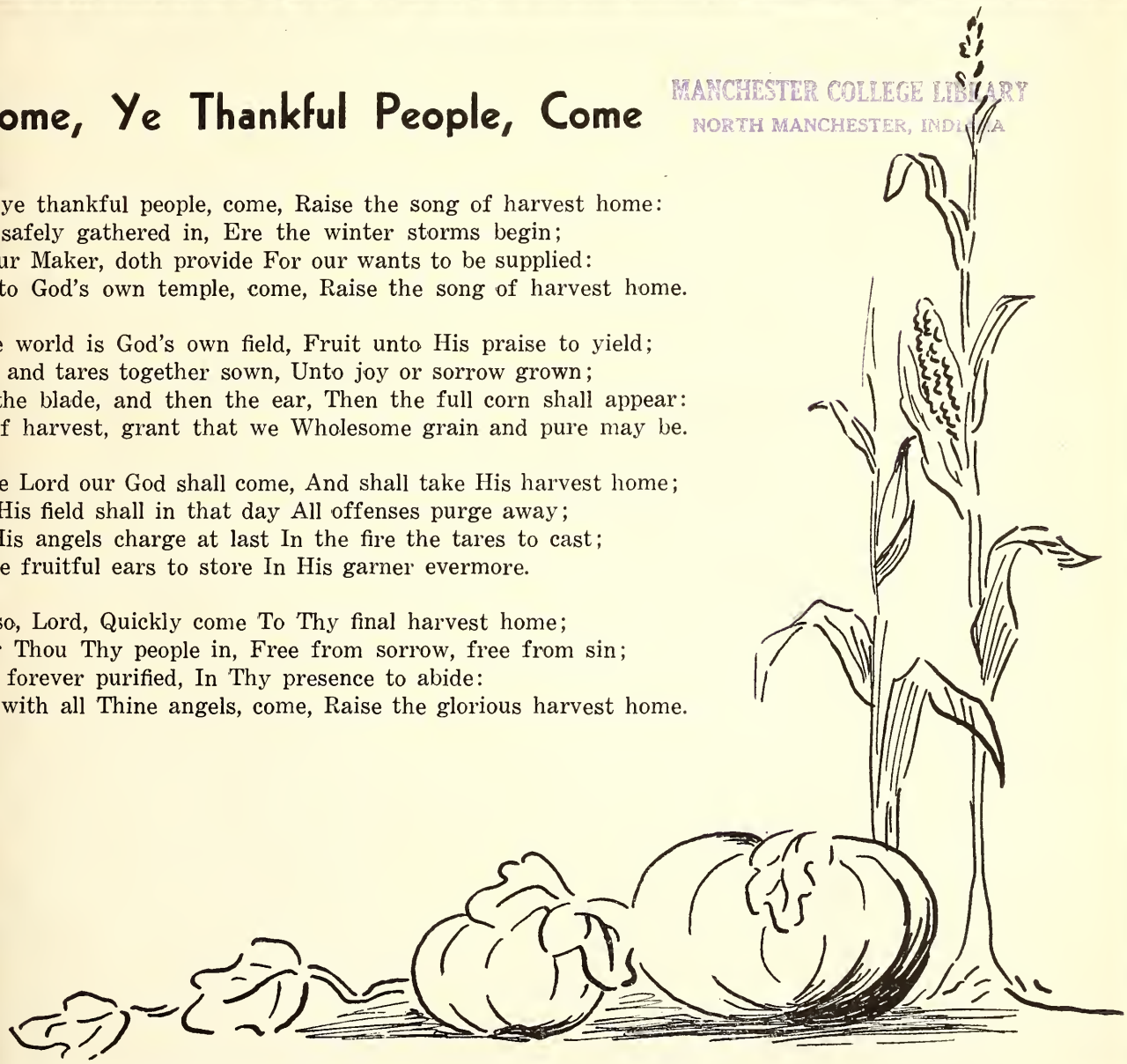
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

me, ye thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest home:
is safely gathered in, Ere the winter storms begin;
d, our Maker, doth provide For our wants to be supplied:
me to God's own temple, come, Raise the song of harvest home.

the world is God's own field, Fruit unto His praise to yield;
heat and tares together sown, Unto joy or sorrow grown;
st the blade, and then the ear, Then the full corn shall appear:
rd of harvest, grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be.

r the Lord our God shall come, And shall take His harvest home;
om His field shall in that day All offenses purge away;
ve His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast;
t the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.

en so, Lord, Quickly come To Thy final harvest home;
ther Thou Thy people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin;
ere, forever purified, In Thy presence to abide:
me, with all Thine angels, come, Raise the glorious harvest home.



VOL. LXXVIII November 17, 1956 No. 45

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. Brother Lyle Lichtenberger reports "Sixty-seven at church on October 28th; 5 new families."

SERGEANTSVILLE, N. J. Homecoming services were held on October 14th. Afternoon speaker was Brother Robert Bischof.

The Sergeantsville Church now has 27 boys and girls, ranging in ages from 4-13, enrolled in its "Children for Christ" Bible Club, which meets Tuesday afternoons.

A "Children for Christ" Rally was held in the Sergeantsville church on November 9th, presenting Rev. and Mrs. Jose Manderiao, of the Philippines.

CALVARY, N. J. The Annual Homecoming was held on October 28th. Dr. John Murray of Philadelphia, was the speaker.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Brother Elmer Keck writes: "Eight persons were baptized on October 28th. Two came forward while Rev. and Mrs. John Turnbull, missionaries to the Holy Land, were with us. Then two came forward at a Youth Rally in Pittsburgh. We took the confession of one person just before the Fall Communion service. Then two more came forward during the recent fall revival. And one more came to be baptized at the time of baptism."

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Congratulations are in order for Brother and Sister Robert L. Hoffman in the arrival of Thomas Lee Hoffman as the Wooster Community Hospital, Saturday evening, October 27th.

The Smithville Church was host to the Northeastern Ohio District Junior Brethren Youth Rally on November 3rd. There were 96 in attendance at the morning and afternoon hours which featured special music, worship, business, recreation, food and a film entitled, "The Pilgrims."

This was the organizational meeting of the Juniors as a separate Rally group. The following officers, officers advisors, and group advisors were elected: President, Jane Drushal (Mrs. Helen McConahay); Vice-President, Tom Creighton (Miss Dorothy Miller); Secretary, Nancy DeWalt (Miss Mary Byler); Assistant Secretary, Janet Meyer (Mrs. Virgil Meyer); Treasurer, Jack Thrun (Mrs Smith); Assistant Treasurer, David Myers (Mr. Royce Gates); Group Advisors: Rev. L. V. King, Miss Mary Byler.

BRYAN, OHIO. A note from Brother Alvin H. Grumbling informs us that he had an operation for the removal of his appendix on October 22nd. The attack came on him Sunday evening October 21st. Brother Grumbling says he is coming along fine, and expected to return to his pulpit on November 4th. Our prayers for a speedy recovery.

ELDER SAMUEL C. HENDERSON

ELDER SAMUEL C. HENDERSON, retired Brethren minister, passed to the greater life beyond, Monday evening, November 5th, at his home in Roanoke, Indiana. Brother Henderson had been in failing health since his retirement from the ministry two years ago. He was 75 years of age at the time of his death. Survived by his wife, who has been seriously ill in the hospital, one daughter, two sons, and a number of grandchildren. Services held in the Roanoke Brethren church on November 8th by Elders Dr. Claud Studebaker, C. C. Grisso and Paul D. Tinkel. Interment in I. O. O. F. Cemetery at Roanoke. Let us remember the bereaved in our prayers, especially Sister Henderson during her illness that God might be richly merciful unto her. W. S. B.

COMING EVENTS

NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA. Revival Services—November 21 through December 2—Curt Emmons Evangelistic Party; Rev. W. E. Thomas, Pastor.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Homecoming and 70th Anniversary Day—November 25th—Rev. J. D. Hamel, Pastor

CAMBRIA COUNTY BRETHREN CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR UNION
FUN NIGHT
Friday, November 30, 1956
Third Brethren Church
Johnstown, Penna.—7:30 P. M.
OFFERING FOR MISSIONS

Bring Christmas gifts for our Brethren Mission at Lost Creek, Kentucky.

Rally and Fun Night are Combined. Come and enjoy the fellowship and fun together.

Walter C. Wertz,
President, C. E. Union.

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

A Thankful Thanksgiving

AMERICANS HAVE SO MUCH for which to be thankful this year. As these words are being written, news reports from Europe tell of much suffering, hardship, and brutality. The iron hand of greed, retaliation and oppression as evidenced in news films and reports, sober every thinking American at this Thanksgiving season.

Surely we must ask ourselves the question, "Why must they suffer, and we go free?" Don't just pass the question off with a shrug of the shoulder! Think about it!

Here in America, we can work where we please, we can go, we can live where we choose, we can set a bountiful table, wear good clothing and live in good homes. We can lie down in peace at night.

How has this all come about in this great land? Many will say that it was American genius and ability. The child of God will acknowledge the blessing and favor of God which has made it possible.

Christians will truly make this a "Thankful Thanksgiving." Christians will take an inventory of their blessings; likewise of their responsibilities. It is our contention that no nation, no matter how well favored, can long continue as such if the Source of those blessings be not honored and obeyed.

The strength of America is in its honoring of God, from its leaders down to its most humble citizen.

The spirit of the founding fathers, the determined perseverance of the Pilgrims, with their fortified faith in God, is a challenge to us today.

Are you still thinking about the question we raised in the second paragraph? Time has a way of dimming the past—days of depression, days of war. But those days were real, and they preceded these days of "plenty and peace."

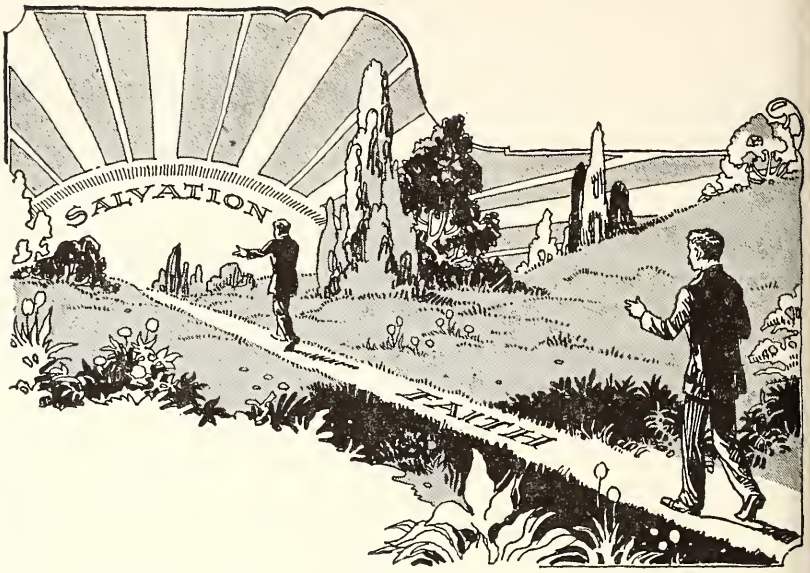
All of us would like to see days of "plenty and peace" continue. We would like to see the nations of the earth dwell together in peace, with the abundance and surplus of high producing countries being used to fill the empty stomachs of the starving millions.

War, iron curtain boundaries, trade agreements, finances, seem to stand in the way. Thus, we who have the blessings of "plenty and peace" should be especially thankful this Thanksgiving season. We should pray for opportunities to help others and to give them also the Bread of Life and the peace which only Christ can give.

"Let's make this a "Thankful Thanksgiving," with the prayer that the Lord will open doors whereby we can minister in word and deed to those less fortunate than ourselves. W. S. B.

"... forget not all his benefits."

We Worship Together



2. Worship in Action: A Highway to God

Rev. H. Francis Berkshire

HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED to consider why we have the many elements in our worship service? For example, the prelude, processional, the Invocation, the Call to Worship, etc.?

Kierkegaard, an outstanding religious thinker and writer of the 18th century said that worship is a great drama. And S. Arthur Devan in his book "Ascent to Zion" calls worship the "Drama of Jesus' Gospel." Public worship has many elements of drama. This description fits the elements of the worship service appropriately.

In drama there is movement and rhythm. What reaction did you have when you read some great play? Attention, feeling, concentration, imagination were in constant movement. These may also be found in worship, plus many other human reactions. The worshiper is seeking and finding, calling and answering, asking and receiving. Parallel to this movement and rhythm is the tide of deep devotion to God. Someone has written that worship is like alternating current in a wire; it races to and from the source of energy. This same restlessness may be found in those who are properly worshiping God through public worship. Our souls race between God and ourself.

The elements of a worship service compose the "form" of the worship service. (Sometimes called the "ritual" of worship.) However, any form is but a means; it is not the end. And the elements of a service are the stepping stones on the highway to God. They are means whereby the worshiper journeys to the Divine God. They are vehicles of communication between man and God. Thus, a good worship service form will never point to itself but Godward.

When one studies the ways that people have worshiped God through the ages he finds that they have found certain natural ways by which they expressed their feeling and have communicated with Him. The common forms of worship in the Brethren Church have been passed on to us as a result of our forefathers having found a natural way to communicate with God. As compared with a Slovak Lutheran Service which has

nineteen separate parts to the worship service, and a Fourth Century Order of Public Worship Service consisting of twelve distinct parts with each having two sub-elements, the worship services in the Brethren Church are much shorter and simpler.

As one analyzes the elements of our worship service he will begin to understand the meaning of movement and rhythm in worship. The basic pattern for worship in the Brethren Church is thus:

Prelude
Processional
Pastoral Call to Worship
The Invocation
Hymn
Scripture
Prayer
Hymn
Offering
The Sermon
Benediction
Postlude

Each element of the worship service is an integral part of the service. But there are many in an average congregation who look upon the order of church worship as a mere succession of items. While there may be variety in the component parts there should be an integrated structure. And in this structure there should be unity. Therefore, it is important that the order of worship be well planned and directed. As the worshiper passes from one element of the service to another he should become more reverently aware of the presence of God and his spirit should move closer to God.

THE PRELUDE

The hearts of worshipers may be called to prayer and praise through music. But this music should be appropriate to prayer and praise and not "jazzy." This music should be capable of striking deep into the heart of the worshiper. Many worship services have been ruined by the use of cheap, showy preludes.

Noisy feet, whisperings, and any confusion in the sanctuary may be quieted by the prelude. It is a musical way of saying "let us unite in common worship of God." The prelude brings the assembly from confusion to meditation. Its power of suggestion brings to mind the words of the psalmist who said, "O come, let us worship and

(This is the second in a series of three articles on "The Art of Worship," by Brother Berkshire. The first appeared in the Brethren Evangelist for October 20th; the third is scheduled to appear in the December 15th issue.)

---

bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker" (Psalm 95:6) and "Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10a) With proper training in the art of worship, any congregation will be elevated to the spirit of attention and awareness when the prelude begins.

THE PROCESSIONAL

The processional involves drama and movement. It raises the atmosphere of expectation in the worshiper's heart and mind. And the worshiper anticipates the next movement in the worship service.

While the processional is not too common in the less liturgical churches there are a few churches that practice this form in worship. The processional has a note of symbolism in it. It represents a journey to God; a pathway to a definite goal. It also has the practical value of getting the choir into its place quietly and reverently.

PASTORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

The pastoral call to worship is a salutation to God. It beckons the worshiper to worship God. It is a call that is addressed to the people, and not especially to God. But nevertheless, there is a twofold beat in the rhythm of the pastoral call to worship; God comes to His people and His people respond to Him.

This call to worship may be Scripture, a stanza of a hymn or, a Christian thought which may induce the wandering mind to focus Godward. Such a call is not a call from the leader but rather, it is a call from the Church. Therefore, a call to worship should be chosen wisely; it should, in a very real sense, be a call to worship.

THE INVOCATION

The invocation is addressed to God, calling upon Him to be present. The content of this prayer should be in accordance with this thought. It is an invitation to God to visit the worship service with His presence. The word itself, "invocation," comes from the Latin meaning to "call in." And the voice in which it is spoken should reflect a quiet confidence that God will be present. As in all prayer, the leader should not intrude quickly into the thoughts of the congregation but, pause a moment before the invocation

and allow the congregation to be prepared for the incoming of God's Spirit.

HYMN SINGING

Congregational singing fuses the congregation into one mass assembly. Enthusiasm and joy are shared through congregational singing. The group becomes unified into one body through singing. Hymns may express a multitude of thoughts; praise, purpose of heart, faith, gratitude, consecration, and dedication are but a few thoughts which they may express.

Hymns should be chosen with particular thought in mind. Usually the first hymn is a hymn of praise. One that appears before the prayer should be suggestive or in the tempo of prayer. The use of congregational singing serves as a vehicle to audibly reaffirm our belief in Christ and to express our dedication to Him.

SCRIPTURE READING

The movement or rhythm in Scripture reading is from God to man. The Divine Word is God speaking to man! But today, we have minimized this movement; we have abbreviated our Scripture reading and in some cases have omitted it. We have lost the heritage of the early church, in this respect. The congregation listened to lengthy passages being read. And in the Jewish synagogue today the worship service consists mainly of the reading of the Scripture.

The use of responsive readings traditionally comes from the antiphonals and chanting in the Hebrew service. While many of the congregation may not sing the hymns they will join in the reading of the Scripture responses. And although many hymn books include responsive readings, one can encourage his congregation to carry Bibles if the responses are read directly from their Bibles. As Dr. Paul E. Johnson suggests, "Unison reading brings social participation, resonance, and interpersonal co-operation."

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

Ideally, the pastoral prayer should contain the following elements:

1. Prayer of Adoration; exaltation of God.

2. Prayer of Confession; we cannot approach God or come into His presence without an awareness of our sin.

3. Prayer of Absolution; the acceptance of pardon.

4. Prayer of Petition; we present supplication for the needs of body and soul, in accordance with his purposes for us.

5. Prayer of Thanksgiving; for all the gifts and mercies He has given to us.

6. Prayer of Intercession; prayer for others in need.

7. Prayer of Consecration; that we offer ourselves to God and his righteousness.

To offer up a prayer for God's needy people is a priestly privilege. All the experiences, emotions, and aspirations of the congregation are brought together in the pastoral prayer. In this prayer the pastor is the voice of the people.

THE OFFERING

The offering is not the price of admission to the worship service! Rather, it is an high act of dedication to One whom we serve. If the center of thought is on the coin which we may place in the offering plate, then we have missed the whole point of this element of the worship service. The movement at this point is that of voluntary dedication or surrender of one's all as a living sacrifice.

THE SERMON

The sermon, in our Protestant churches, has become the high point, chief interest, and center of the worship service. All other elements have

(Continued on Page 10)

for BRETHREN HOME MISSIONS during November an offering EQUAL to our Home Mission Needs and our ADVANCED Home Mission Program.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

CALLING ALL CARS

THE Missionary Board has been "Calling All Cars" for something suited to the needs of the Krypton work, for Margaret Lowery's use. Here is what they came up with—a jeep, mechanically constructed and temperamentally constituted to negotiate the curves, gullies, streams, etc. which characterize that area.

Some of the roads Margaret has been called upon to travel have been practically or entirely impassable with her car.

Now this little monster is positively "terrivorous"—it eats up the terrain. Purchase of the much-needed little vehicle is being made possible by gifts from the Pennsylvania District W. M. S., the Central District W. M. S., the Wonder Class from Oakville, Indiana, and a Sunday school class at Elkhart.

Thanks Everybody!

Testimonial:

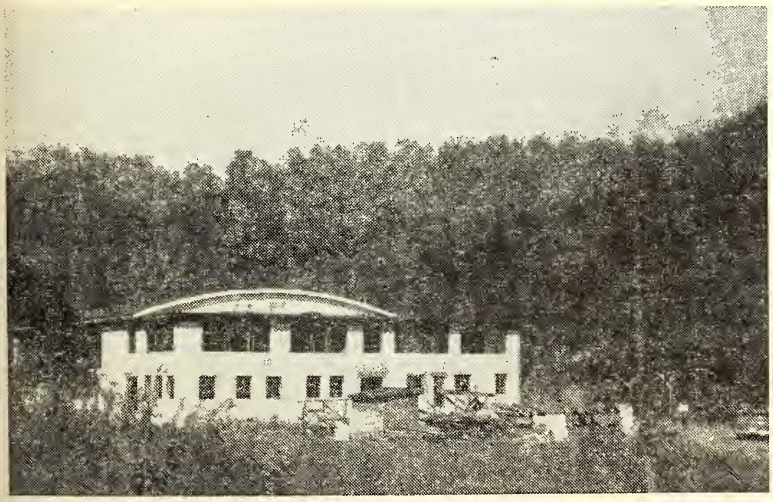
I SOMETIMES FEAR that we as Brethren fail to appreciate the good work our Board is doing, both in home and foreign fields. I well remember the very substantial help the Board gave to our Oak Hill Church.

Let us all give our prayers and of our means to the worthy work our Home Board is doing.

In Christ's name,

Dr. H. A. Duncan,
Oak Hill, West Virginia.

PAY-AS-YOU-GROW



AMERICAN economy is based largely on the pay-as-you-go plan; and the results are phenomenal. Similarly, at Lost Creek, we have been proceeding pretty much on the pay-as-you-grow theory; however, recently the **growing** has somewhat exceeded the **paying.** Now we need to repay what has been borrowed to proceed thus far. Also, we need additional funds with which to complete the gymnasium-classroom quarters.

The accompanying picture shows what a lovely building we have—under roof and free from danger of depreciation from the weather—but it is not yet ready for use. Wiring, flooring, plumbing, etc., must be supplied—after we pay what has been borrowed.

Let's follow the principle **Pay-As-You-Grow**; but let's be sure to GROW!

Brethren Berean Camp --

THE BRETHREN BEREAN CAMP is located near Twain-Harte in the Sierra Mountains about seventy-five miles from the Yosemite National Park. This year's camp was held on the week of June 17-24. Rev. Vernon Grisso of Tucson, Arizona was the camp evangelist. Rev. Chuck Leviton of the Stockton Brethren Church, Rev. Bruce Warner, Modesto, and Rev. Charles Inman of the Roadside Cross Church were the inspirational spe Teachers for the primary were Mrs. Homer Brook Mrs. Vic Johnson; Juniors, Mrs. Joseph Whisma Mrs. Vic Johnson; Intermediates, Mrs. C. Y. and Mrs. Joseph Whisman; Young People, Rev. V Grisso and Rev. C. Y. Gilmer. The class enroll were primary, 6; juniors, 10; intermediates, 19; young people, 34. Sixteen young people and inte

orthern California -- 1956

t, and three helpers were from Tucson. There were rst-time confessions and 4 life recruits.

he Berean Executive Committee was composed of ry Crom, president; Clay Brooks, vice president; Nor- Jean Brooks, secretary; Stanley Hagstrom, treasur- David Larsen, chorister; Karen Larsen, pianist; How- Crom, assistant chorister; C. Y. Gilmer, pastor-coun- r. Mrs. Howard Crom and Mrs. Stanley Hagstrom were in charge of the cooking, and other ladies in camp gave excellent assistance. Mrs. Merle Johnson had charge of the dining hall. Mrs. Estelle Huse was camp mother for her nineteenth year. Donald Harnden was camp father. Mrs. Bessie Stevens, Tucson, was camp nurse.

The trustees of the camp are Stanley Hagstrom, Howard Crom, Homer Brooks, Frank Coykendall, Ray Johnson and Julian Hallett.

"WE WORSHIP TOGETHER"

II Worship In Action: A Highway To God

(Continued from Page 6)

become "preliminaries." Consequently, many have a distorted view of the whole idea of the worship service. But, the sermon is an integer, one part, and not the whole of the worship service! Let us treat it so!

The sermon is addressed to man. It is a challenge to man. It may be an application of, an explanation of, or an exhortation relative to the Word of God. It may be a challenge to heroic action, a call to Christian service, insight into righteous living, or some other phase of Christian living. The sermon is God speaking to people through the voice of a preacher who is ordained to proclaim His Word. (cf John 1:23). The movement is from God to man. But unless the sermon leads someone to God then the sermon has failed in its performance.

THE BENEDICTION

The benediction has the reality of "Lo, I am with you, even unto the end of the world." It confirms the feeling of God's abiding presence. But the best explanation is that of a little boy who defines the benediction as "asking God to go home with you." The benediction calls for the grace of God and divine peace to depart with each worshiper. And thus the rhythmic cycle ends with the benediction until we join a host of worshipers once again in the House of the Lord.

THE POSTLUDE

The postlude is the musical benediction on the worshipers. It provides a formal closing for the service. This music should fit the mood of this part of the service.

Lanark, Illinois.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers. also please note:

HOME MISSION OFFERING

Make checks payable to the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, and address Missionary Board of the Brethren Church, 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

AFRAID IN THE DARK

"It was now dark and Jesus was not come to them." John 6:17.

THE STORY GOES of a little lad whose evening duty it was to put the milk bottles out on the porch before the family retired. One night when he opened the door and looked out he realized that it was exceptionally dark. Shrinking from the sense of possible danger he exclaimed: "It's too dark to go out without a father." In the incident of our text it was a dark and stormy night, and as far as the disciples were aware they were alone in the midst of the raging storm and billows. There was no beloved Master in the ship with them, to compose their troubled minds or encourage their drooping hearts. Possibly if the night had been calm and clear they would not have sensed the Master's absence so keenly. But now everything seemed to be against them. The troubled sea, the boisterous wind, the dense darkness, and the difficulty of rowing against wind and wave—and the Lord's absence—made their position one of perplexity and distress.

And where is the Master all this time, whither has He gone? Has He lost interest in or ceased to care for His disciples? Is He not aware of their distress? We may say that He has gone to the place of power, and is even then using that power in their behalf. From the mountain, where He has gone to pray, His all-seeing eye is following them unweariedly. Not a single wave has touched the vessel without His measuring its height. Not a breath of wind has gone forth from the chamber of the winds without His having commissioned it. He is at the helm of the winds, the waves, and the vessel. His hand controls everything, He rules over all. Never is God more near to His people, or they more dear to Him, than when they are passing through storms, apparently alone.

"Let me no more my comfort draw
From my frail hold of Thee;
In this alone rejoice with awe,
Thy mighty grasp of me."

—J. C. Shairp.

Laid to Rest

ECKMAN. Mrs. Walter Eckman, formerly Ada Manning, departed this life October 8, 1956, at the age of thirty-seven years in her home at Holland, Michigan. She had been ill one year. Member of the College Corner Church since 1933. Survivors include her husband, a son and a daughter, her parents, four sisters and three brothers. Funeral services were conducted from the College Corner Church by the pastor.

G. B. Hanna.

What's Doing in the Churches

MT. OLIVE REVIVAL

The Mt. Olive Brethren church enjoyed a season of Revival and Evangelistic services September 11-23. We were fortunate in obtaining the enthusiastic and valuable services of our beloved brother J. D. "Bud" Hamel. The fervor of his preaching and his utter goodwill, geniality and appreciative good nature endeared him to our people and many others of the community. He has already written of his impressions in the **Evangelist**, to which I will add a little. We are very grateful to the South Bend Brethren for thus sharing Brother Hamel with us. It would be hard to say enough complimentary things about this dedicated and vigorous young servant of the Lord. So we simply will say we are thankful to the Lord and all those who prayed and worked to make this meeting the great experience that it was for all of us here.

The first Sunday of the meeting was observed as Homecoming Sunday, and to the great surprise of the Pastor and his wife it also turned out to be a very special occasion for us, for the congregation honored us with a lovely three-tiered cake and appropriate decorations. A very kind speech by Mrs. Vallie Bowman, treasurer of the church, preceded the gift of silver dollars by the congregation commemorating my twenty-fifth year as Pastor at Mt. Olive. The lovely cake and punch also helped celebrate Mrs. Locke's birthday and our wedding anniversary. Brother Hamel and certain ones of the congregation knew all about this, and had quite a write-up in the Daily paper complete with a very good picture (considering one of the subjects) taken by the press photographer who had been invited to be on hand at the right moment. Since this write-up and picture was published in the paper I have had letters from people in various places. Since Brother Hamel knew all about this celebration from the very night of his arrival, and did not tell me, I have now the greatest respect for his ability to keep a confidence. He was a fine man to work with as an evangelist and I do sincerely appreciate his fine work and spirit. May the Lord's choicest blessings always attend him and his loved ones in the gospel ministry.

One of the features of the Homecoming Day which meant much to all of our people was the presence of Elder G. W. Chambers and Mrs. Chambers and members of their family. It is like a benediction to have these good people come and fellowship in the church they served so long and so well. Brother Chambers is now one of our super-annuated ministers but his heart is with the work of the Brethren Church. We were all grateful that he and his family were able to be with us.

The weather for the meeting was superb, too. Of course we are most grateful for the many decisions for Christ which we hope will continue to bless the life and work of the church in the days ahead. Recently the Youth Crusaders re-organized and our Brother Hamel made a fine contribution to this phase of the church's work. A Youth workshop for the whole district is to be held Nov. 10 at Mt. Olive under the direction of Phillip Lersch.

A week following the Revival, Sept. 30, we had a full church to meet the Bischofs and see the pictures of Africa.

Before I close I must say a further word of appreciation to Brother Hamel for his cornet playing. His solos and help on the hymns, were further reasons for our enjoyment of his stay with us. We hope that he will be able to come again. We covet the prayers of all the brethren.

John F. Locke, Pastor.

MEXICO, INDIANA

The Mexico Brethren Church of Mexico, Indiana, called the undersigned to its pastorate for this year beginning October 1. The town of Mexico is growing rapidly, with many new homes being built within the town itself as well as just south of the town. The church felt that it should have a pastor on the field to work in this new area. They had been served only on a part time basis for some time. The church had had a parsonage several years ago, but had sold it. They are now planning to buy or build a new one. Rev. Miller will serve the church on a full-time basis as soon as he can move. For the present, however preaching services are held each Sunday morning only.

This is an important step forward for the Mexico church and we desire the prayers of all for the success of this forward step.

Rev. Miller was ordained July 8 of this year in the College Corner Church of which he became a member in 1914 under the pastorate of Rev. P. M. Fishes.

Rev. Ralph E. Miller, Sr.

January 18, 19, 20, 1957

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THANKSGIVING DAY

For the days when nothing happens,
  For the cares that leave no trace,
For the love of little children,
  For each sunny dwelling place,
For the altars of our fathers,
  And the closets where we pray,
Take, O Gracious God and Father,
  Praises this Thanksgiving Day.

For our harvest safe ingathered,
  For our golden store of wheat,
For the cornlands and the vinelands,
  For the flowers up-springing sweet,
For our coasts from want protected,
  For each inlet, river, bay,
By the bounty full and flowing,
  Take our praise this joyful day.

For our dear ones lifted higher
  Through the darkness to the light,
Ours to love and ours to cherish
  In dear memory, beyond sight,
For our kindred and acquaintance
  In yon Heaven who safely stay,
We uplift our psalms of triumph,
  Lord, on this Thanksgiving day.

—Margaret E. Sangster.

EVERY CHILD OF GOD has much reason for thanksgiving (Psalm 103:1-5). Thanksgiving should be every day in the year (Psalm 34:1). Thanksgiving should be "all the day long" (Psalm 35:28). If we praised God and talked of His righteousness all day long, those who seek to harm us would be confounded (Psalm 71:22-24). The angels praise God and Heaven is filled with song (Psalm 103:20, 21). Even the universe, without personality, praises God (Psalm 19:1-3; 103:25).

We are not to forget to thank God for ALL His benefits (Psalm 103:2). Be sure to thank Him for the forgiveness of your sins (v. 3)! God gave His Son for this benefit (1 Tim. 1:15). Can you think of any blessing more important than this (Luke 19:10)? Are you rejoicing over salvation or over something else (Luke 10:20)? Could it be you have lost your first love? (Rev. 2:4)

A secondary blessing is good health (Psalm 103:3b). If you have been healed by the prayer of faith (James 5:13-16) you should never forget to thank God and to serve Him out of gratitude for it. However, if God wants you to remain sick for His glory or for your good, praise Him just the same (Rom. 8:28).

Let us thank God for sparing our lives from day to day (Psalm 34:7). The true child of God has a guardian angel (Heb. 1:14). When we are committed to God He will give His angels charge over us (Psalm 91:11, 12). We love to sing the hymn, "Under His Wings" (Psalı 91:4-6). We know that God has a time for a saint t die (Psalm 116:15). But when our work is not finishe for the Lord, we, like the Psalmist, may pray for th extension of our lives (Psalm 13:3). Jesus prayed i Gethsemane and was spared for Calvary (Heb. 5:7). Ho often have we been spared from dangers "seen and ur seen" (Psalm 103:4a)!

God will crown us with His lovingkindness and tende mercies if we will let Him. Thus God crowned Joseph i prison (Gen. 39:21), and Daniel in captivity (Dan. 1:9 God remembers those who revere Him (Psalm 103:13 He "satisfieth thy mouth with good things" now (Psalı 103:5a), and with better things in prospect (Luke 14:15 Thank Him for His every gift (James 1:17; Psalm 116: 12, 13), and lovingly obey His gospel commands (Joh 14:25).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for November 25, 1956

THE FORGIVING FATHER

Lesson: Luke 15:11-24

AN ENGLISH OFFICER riding over the battlefie with his servant, noticed a wounded enemy soldie "Give the poor fellow a drink from the water bottle he said. As the servant stooped down the soldier fire and only narrowly missed. Stepping back, the serva said: "What shall I do now, sir?" "Give him the wate all the same," was the noble officer's reply.

God forgives—not once, but countless times. Luke presents not only accounts of **The Prodigal Son and Th Loveless Brother**, but also of **The Forgiving Father.** A we read this story let us, therefore, see in it an illu tration of a Heavenly Father who stands ready to fo give His wayward children.

The father must have been very grieved when h youngest son decided to leave the household. As a wi father who was aware of the endless pitfalls in this cru heartless world, he longed to protect his child. But h would not violate his son's will. What the boy will to do he was permitted to do. So the boy left the prote tion and care of his father and wandered alone into th world.

God is a wise and loving Heavenly Father who kno the dangers that lurk in this world. He knows Sat is an adversary who "walketh about, seeking whom may devour" (I Peter 5:8). The Father longs that H children stay within the confines and protection of H love and care. **But He will not violate the human wi** When we His children will our own wills, disregardi the **Divine Will**, He permits us to do so. For God did n create man to be a machine controlled by a mast switch. Instead He made man a personality composed a will, emotions, and intellect. God would have us w

His **Will**, so that our desire would be, "Not **my will**, but **Thine** be done."

And so the youngest son went off into the world where he wasted his substance and time in riotous living. The world was not as attractive and glittering as he had once thought! He discovered that "all that glitters is not gold." Soon his money was gone! Then his friends were gone! The fascination also was gone! He longed for the comfort and love and protection of his father's home.

Then came the day when his **will** was broken. Now he was ready to **will his father's will.** "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned . . . "

What about the father all this time? The months were long without his beloved son. He continued to love his boy, wayward though he was. Day after day he would trudge to the top of the hill and look with anxious eyes in the direction in which his boy had gone. But there was no sign of him. Night after night he would cry out in anguish:

"Child, come home, child, come home,
Wand'ring child, why longer roam?
'Tis thy Father entreats—
Wand'ring child, O, come home."

Then came the long-awaited day when the son did return! The father was willing to **forgive** and to **forget.** For this my son was dead, and is alive again, he was lost, and is found."

Our Heavenly Father "forgiveth all thine iniquities" (Psalm 103:3). Some would interpret this to mean that sin is a light matter. Not so! Nor is forgiveness **granted** until forgiveness is **sought.** The true basis for the forgiveness of sins is faith in the death of Christ on the cross, for it is "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son (that) cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7).

"The Heavenly Father seals His pardon to us when He declares, 'I have blotted out, as a cloud, thy sins.'"
—Alexander MacLaren.

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

HOW TO BUILD ATTENDANCE

ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING Sunday school authorities in America is Dr. P. H. Welshimer of Canton, Ohio, whose Sunday school attendance averages about 1,000 each week. Dr. Welshimer lists ten essentials in building attendance.

1. **Make the school attractive.** The rooms should be clean, light, and airy with appropriate pictures on all classroom walls. Sympathy, love, good will, cheerfulness, and helpfulness must be shown to newcomers so that they will want to come again.

2. **Be sociable.** Shake hands with people when they enter and when they leave. Committees of greeters should be at every church door to welcome people as they arrive. Dr. Welshimer says that such a practice will popularize your Sunday school more than any one thing.

3. **Let the leaders set an example.** If teachers and officers are interested in increasing attendance, the pupils will be interested too.

4. **Use plenty of publicity.** Such items as invitation cards, posters, church bulletins and newspapers, handbills, doorknob hangers, and newspaper ads have proved very effective. Take a lesson from the stores near you. It pays to advertise!

5. **Know your community.** In large communities take a church census every year; in smaller ones, every two years. Somewhere in the church there should be a map marking the location of all the members' homes.

6. **Serve your community.** Have an exhibit at the county fair. Furnish workers in campaigns for reform and charity. Help in union days of prayer. Show the people of your community that you are interested in them and are on the job.

7. **Visit constantly and systematically.** No better method of reaching prospects has ever been found than that of visitation. There should be some visitation going on every week for your Sunday school.

8. **Recognize achievement.** People want to be appreciated; they like to feel important. Give credit for attendance, handwork, and memory work. Honor workers for faithful or outstanding service. But remember, recognition is only a means to an end—not an end in itself.

9. **Hold sane contests.** Many people criticize Sunday school contests, but they can be most beneficial if properly conducted. Contests will enlist new workers, advertize your school, secure new prospects, and encourage regular attendance. In short, contests do for the Sunday school what good sales do for the average store.

10. **Have a good school.** The emphasis here is on the words "good" and "school." There must be something worthwhile for people when they come to Sunday school. This will require trained teachers, the best materials available, and a dynamic spiritual message at all times.

All of this is done for just one purpose—to reach people for Christ, to teach them about Christ, to win them to Christ, to train them to serve Christ.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

"WHY IS THIS SO?"

by Vincent Daniel (Malaya)

"IN AUGUST, 1954, I had the privilege of leading an ecumenical work camp in Morib, a seaside town in Malaya. Young Christians of various races and denominations worked, played, and lived together. We transformed an old thatched shed into a youth center. A non-Christian carpenter helped us. He joined with us in all our activities with one exception—he never attended a religious meeting or Bible study class.

"A year later, I had occasion to visit the camp. I was delighted to see the carpenter still there. I shall never forget the words with which he greeted me. 'Mr. Daniel,' he said, 'I have worked with much people after your fellows come and go. But I see you all different. You fellows work harder, play harder, and laugh much more. WHY IS THIS SO?'

"I answered him with one word, 'CHRIST.'"

SCRIPTURE: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matthew 25:40).

PRAYER: "O God, help us to realize that the truly joyous life is a life of service. Through the spirit of Christ shown in good works, Thou dost bring others to Christ. We thank thee for the privilege of witnessing for Thee. In Jesus' name. Amen."

THOUGHT: "I will not be content with just saying that I am a Christian; I will show that I am one, today."

...from the UPPER ROOM

(Let's not wait until the Cross Country Conference on Stewardship in January to begin a more active program of being good stewards of what God has given to us. The word "today" calls us to immediate activity. Be steward-minded.)

ALL EYES ON FREMONT, OHIO

And what do you see? Well, on October 27th you would see Rev. Kenneth Solomon, about 20 of the Fremont Brethren Youth, and some youth advisors conducting a Local Brethren Youth Rally. This is a wonderful idea!

They all met at the church about two o'clock on this Saturday afternoon for some games which provided for many tests of skill. Entertainment was provided for everyone as they assembled for the afternoon and evening of Christian Fellowship. After the showing of a humorous film, a movie of strong missionary appeal was presented, entitled "They Too Must Know." This stirring story of mission work in one particular family in Mexico was followed by a good discussion led by Rev. Solomon. We talked over what had been learned by seeing the film.

Just before supper about 45 minutes were spent in a Brethren Youth Workshop. We discussed the goals, magazine, project, Booster Club, Membership Cards and many other things that an active Brethren Youth Crusader should know. Do you know what these things are all about? Better read the Brethren Youth Magazine then.

Several women of the Fremont Brethren Church had prepared a fine chili supper for us and it made a very nice gathering around nicely decorated tables. Then some jerk from Ashland, named Clem, presented a command performance on a slushpump. (They commanded that he quit). Identity of this creature will remain hidden.

The day was closed with a worship service in the church sanctuary where several of the youth leaders had part in the service and your youth director was privileged to bring the message. Don't wait for your district to have a youth rally. Plan a local youth rally in your own church. Fremont did it and it turned out real well. My thanks goes out to them for an encouraging experience.

WATCH-OUT FOR BILLY!

Very soon now a new fellow is going to move in and help with Brethren Youth work. His name is BILLY BOOTH. We're not just sure of his exact arrival time at this writing, but it shouldn't be too long yet. Get ready to welcome Billy into our work, for I know he'll do a lot of good work. Look fo rhis coming, folks. It's BILLY BOOTH.

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."—New Testament, Romans 12:18.

COME WHAT MAY, here it is . . .

...A Brand New Brethren Youth Handbook will be in your hands soon. This collection of source material is being compiled by the National Youth Board. Look for it and use it once it is in your hands.

...Several post cards were mailed out on October 25th to you folks whose subscription to the Brethren Youth magazine had expired in past months. Don't show this under yea—million other items on your pantry shelf. Please send us just one green dollar, with your name and address, and request a renewal. It may be small, but it's mighty. BUT IT'S NOT MIGHTY SMALL!

...One Brethren Youth Crusader offering per month should be coming in soon from your group. You can be a banner society without it. Some have already acted. Why not you? This is one of your Goals!

...Rev. George Solomon of the Gretna Brethren Church tells me that their Brethren Youth is on a budget plan. This is only possible because nearly all of their if not all, TITHE. Now we're getting some place. Let's get some more of you to follow this example. Keep looking for a report for the success of this active group that means business.

DIS IS FER DEE PREACHERS

If you haven't passed out the goals, Booster Club cards or B. Y. Membership cards, now is the time. Try not to let these things go by unnoticed. The lives of young people are definitely affected by an active youth program.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

THANKSGIVING is the time of the year when we as a nation are supposed to remember God's great blessings. Too many of us promptly forget God's power and goodness the rest of the year.

In Psalm 103:2 we find these words: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." David knew the temptation to forget God's mercies and so he spoke to his own soul in vs. 1-5. In vs. 6-18 he proceeds in recognition of national blessings, and ends with the inclusion of all the angels, and hosts, and works in the vast dominion of God. Yet, all ends with the personal word just as it begun.

Why are we so ready to forget the benefits of the Lord? If God's mercies came rarely, singly or unexpectedly how we should prize them. But they have been over us like the heavens, around us like the air, and under us like the earth ever since we were born.

Strive to see God's hand in all that befalls you. Strike from your thoughts such words as fate, misfortune, luck. Remember, you are the children of an all-powerful, loving Heavenly Father and not children of chance. Honor God by seeing in everything some movement of His hand.

Sit down and go over your mercies in detail—one by one. Try and count them and you will soon see how wonderfully God has blessed you. A general thankfulness never praises God. In every bite you eat, in every drop you drink, in all you have and all you get try to see Him who loves you and who gave His Son to die on Calvary for you.

FORGET NOT!

Mrs. Delbert B. Flora,
Ashland, Ohio.

Wedding Announcement

LINEWEAVER-BAKER. Miss Nellie Virginia Lineweaver, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lineweaver of Mt. Jackson, Virginia, became the bride of William Bernard Baker in a double ring ceremony in the Maurertown Brethren church at 4:00 P. M., October 20. The bride is a member of the Maurertown Church; the groom is a member of the Church of the Brethren. The wedding service was read by the undersigned.

John F. Locke.

* * *

COLLIER-THOMPSON. Miss Edna Sue Collier became the bride of Hancil Martin Thompson at 3:00 P. M. in the Mt. Olive Brethren church, Sunday, October 21. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Showalter Collier, members of the Mt. Olive church. The service was read by the bride's pastor. The double ring ceremony was used.

John F. Locke.

* * *

SIMMS-HOYT. Saturday evening, October 6th, 1956, were united in marriage at the home of the Bridegroom, by this Pastor, William L. Simms, and Miss Shirley Mae Hoyt. Mr. Simms is one of the Charter Members of Newark Brethren Church, and has served four years with the U. S. Navy. Both young people are high school graduates, and are employed in local industries. The bride is a member of The Church of God. May God's richest blessing ever attend them.

William S. Crick.

THIS YEAR'S OUTPUT OF CHRISTMAS GREETING CARDS WILL RETURN TO A RELIGIOUS THEME! IRREVERENT CARDS ON WAY OUT

Americans will be exchanging two billion greeting cards this season according to word from the greeting card manufacturers, and among the significant changes you will note when making your own selection this year, is the return of the religious theme to the Yule greeting cards.

In recent times, due to the cynicism brought about by World War II and the Korean conflict, religious cards have accounted for about five per cent of the total sold. This year the proportion of religious Christmas cards will be about 25 per cent.

What has brought about this dramatic change? Milton K. Harrington, president of the Chapel Art Studios, St. Louis, Mo., the industry's sole exclusive manufacturer of reverent Christmas cards, attributes the change to the general rise in religious thought and church membership, and to the determination to "put Christ back into Christmas," expressed from many pulpits in recent times.

Although Chapel is the first company in the field to devote its entire line to Christmas cards with a religious theme, a great many of the other companies are placing greater emphasis on the religious aspects of Christmas.

Scenes of the Nativity, the Star of Bethlehem, the shepherds and the wise men, Madonna and Child, are among the most popular of this year's themes. Definitely on the way out, according to the trade, are the leering Santas, the mistletoe kissing scenes, and the war-like cannons belching forth fiery salvos of smoke which spell out "Merry Xmas."

Other than religious themes, the 1956 output will stress the traditional floral, candle and other traditional happy holiday symbols.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
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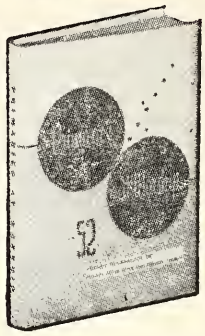
Worship Books for Primaries and Juniors

PRIMARIES AT WORSHIP



Primary leaders will welcome this brand-new book of 52 assembly programs which have been prepared and actually used in Primary worship services. Every program emphasizes a Bible truth and is presented by correlating songs and Scriptures, by visual-aid methods such as chalk talks, flannelgraph lessons, object lessons, and finger puppets. There are two complete shadow puppet shows—Christmas and Easter—in the back of the book. Some program titles are: Following Jesus, God Forgives Us, All Things Possible, Prayer Is the Key, God's Beautiful Colors, etc. Ideal for the Primary Department, the Primary church, and V. B. S., as well as weekday and Sunday evening classes.

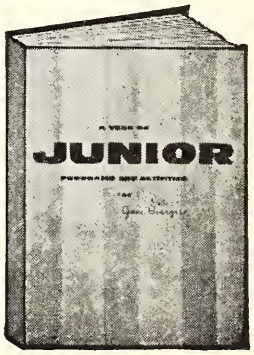
No. 3100 ..... **$2.00**

52 PRIMARY WORSHIP PROGRAMS

By Idalee Wolf Vonk. Each program includes an object lesson, a Bible story, and a modern story. Different theme each month, with missionary studies to be used on fifth Sundays. Beautifully written calls to worship and offertory prayers. May be used for weekday or Sunday-night course, or for vacation Bible school. 286 pages.

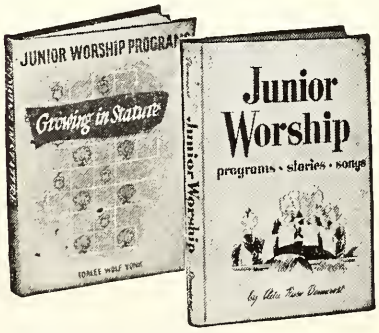
No. 2871 ..... **$2.95**

A YEAR OF JUNIOR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



Presenting a book of 52 pupil participation type of programs plus handwork, quizzes, playlets and stories sure to make a hit with this effervescent group. Programs are keyed for the month in which they will be presented. For example, some September program titles are: School Days Program, Campfire Program. For December: A Great Feast, Let's Make Christmas Gifts, Christmas Carols, Jesus Is Born, and Let's Look at Ourselves. The size is 8½ x 11 inches and each book is perforated so program material may be easily distributed. Suggested illustrations for posters or other publicity aids are included.

No. 3371 ..... **$2.95**



GROWING IN STATURE

By Idalee Wolf Vonk. 52 Junior worship programs, each with an object lesson and story. Lesson themes are based on Luke 2:52, with each program developing one character quality in which boys and girls should "grow" each day. Numerous playlets, poems, and four special-day programs included. 256 pages.

No. 2913 ..... **Price, $2.50**

JUNIOR WORSHIP. By Ada Rose Demerest. Fifty-two worship programs, each about twenty minutes long and complete in itself. 240 pages. **No. 2981** ..... **Price, $2.25**

TEACHING THROUGH WORSHIP. By Ann Morgan. Forty-nine programs that teach the fundamental truths of God's Word. 154 pages. **No. 3233** ..... **Price, $1.75**

On all book orders please add ten cents for postage.

The Brethren Publishing Company
524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

UNIVERSAL BIBLE SUNDAY—DECEMBER 9, 1956

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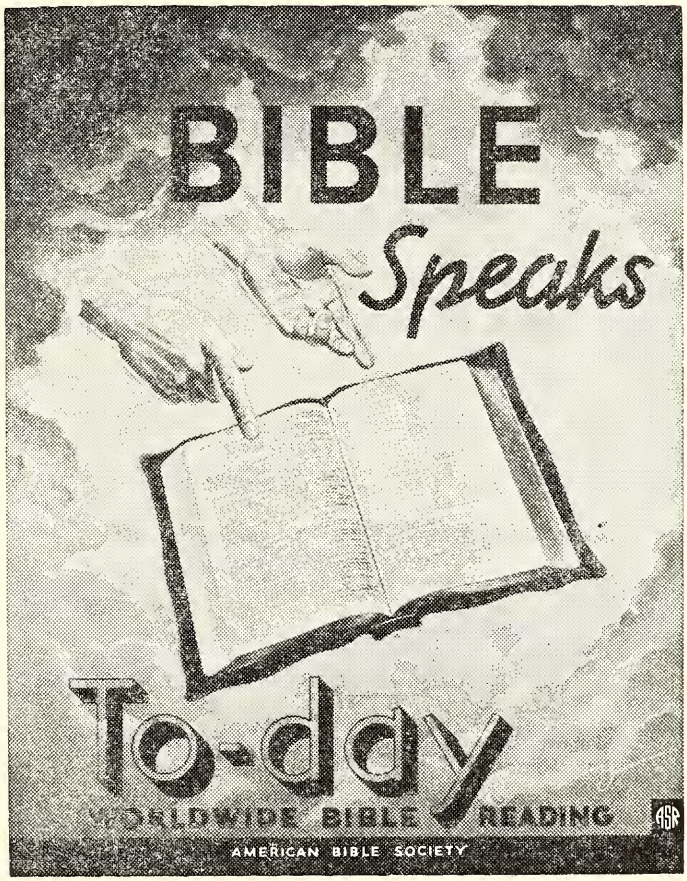

Thanksgiving to Christmas Bible Readings—Page Fifteen

VOL. LXXVIII November 24, 1956 No. 46

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

GATEWOOD BRETHREN, FAYETTEVILLE, W. VA. Brother Hays K. Logan writes as follows: "Eight members were baptized into the Church at a recent revival in our Church. Six people reconsecrated their lives to the Lord; we thank the Lord for the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in our church."

SERGEANTSVILLE, N. J. Improvements are being made in the parsonage in the form of a new wooden floor for the basement. The basement is being used as a meeting place for Junior boys and their adult leaders; also for the Junior Choir which practices on Friday evening, followed by a "Workshop." Present project is the making of toys to give to needy children in the hospital.

BERLIN, PENNA. The Father and Son banquet was held on November 6th, with Rev. Solt as the scheduled speaker.

VALLEY BRETHREN, JONES MILLS, PENNA. Four persons were received into the full fellowship of the church on November 4th, having been baptized the Sunday before.

MASONTOWN, PENNA. Brother William Keeling notes that their Sunday School Board had full charge of the evening services on November 4th.

WAYNE HEIGHTS BRETHREN, WAYNESBORO, PENNA. Rev. Palmer M. Slenker, from the Quincy Orphanage is supplying the Wayne Heights Church at the morning services on November 18th and 25th, while the pastor, Brother N. Victor Leatherman, is conducting meetings in the Flora church. The W. M. S. and the Men's Bible Class are caring for the evening services for these Sundays.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. The Smithville congregation has voted to proceed with plans as rapidly as possible on the building of an addition to the church. It is hoped that construction of the first unit can begin next Spring. According to a brochure prepared by the Building Committee, the new unit will be constructed onto the rear of the present edifice and will "provide space for a growing and thriving Sunday school, enable teachers to work more effectively in all areas, increase the usefulness of the entire church edifice, provide for eventual further expansion of the building, and make possible a more efficient church activity program." A goal of $70,000 on the project has been set by the Official Board.

NEWARK, OHIO. Brother William S. Crick conducte Chapel Services at the county jail on a recent Sunda afternoon.

GARBER MEMORIAL BRETHREN, ASHLAND, OHIC Brother William Fells notes that the way has been cleare for the excavation of the church basement which wi provide room for five badly needed Sunday school clas rooms. Work is to begin soon.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. The Laymen's Public servic was held on November 4th, with NLO Past Presiden "Bud" Hunter as the scheduled guest speaker.

Brother John T. Byler in commenting on the continue progress of their new building program says, "Anothe two or three weeks will see our building closed in fo the winter."

MUNCIE, INDIANA. Mrs. Rosa Richey, Correspond ing Secretary of the Muncie church, has written the fol lowing very interesting note to the Editor:

"When Rev. E. J. Black resigned as pastor of th Muncie church, he thought he would never be able t come back as pastor. But because of the shortage o ministers and pastorless Brethren churches, although h is still a very sick man, he and Mrs. Black have decide to stay in the parsonage. He is steadily improving, muc faster than we had thought possible. Mrs. Black has con sented to fill the pulpit on Sundays. We hope in a fe months he will again be able to take over the work. Go has marvelously answered prayer in their behalf. S please continue to pray for them and us of the Munci church, that we may always be in the 'Center of God' Will.'"

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. Dr. Lisle Roose was th speaker in the Nappanee church on November 4th, whic date was also observed as Rally Day.

MILFORD, INDIANA. From the Milford bulletin w quote: "We are very happy to report that Sunday eve ning we enjoyed our largest fellowship at Communio We were very thankful for the many young people wh came to commune with us."

The Milford Homecoming was held on October 28t with Brother W. I. Duker as speaker.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Henr Bates reports that at a recent Sunday evening Fellow ship hour, their young people reported on their recer week-end spent at Lost Creek. Report was made of thei activities and reactions; a number of pictures were als shown.

(Continued on Page 11)

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

Thanksgiving to Christmas

AT THIS WRITING, it is but a few days until Thanksgiving. Already the "rush" is on for Christmas. The few short days will pass all too swiftly, and soon another "holiday season" will be "over."

Each year in this modern day of "Rush, rush, rush," when it is over, many of us wonder what it was all about. Many of us have the feeling of preparing for something important, only to find that we missed the point. It is as if we were preparing for some important visitor, only to find that in our preparations, the visitor had come and gone, and we didn't get to see him.

This is due largely to commercial and social pressures brought on by the associations of Christmas. It is due mainly to the fact that our emphasis is too much on the tinsel, and not enough on the gift. Yes, we mean we focus our attention too much on having a big Christmas, that we miss the point of it being the Christ Child's birthday!

Our hearts are touched by the tenderness of Christmas; of being "home" for Christmas; of enjoying the fellowship of loved ones; of snow, of trees, lights, carols and gifts. Christmas raises the deeper emotions of the soul more so than any season of the year except Easter and the resurrection of our blessed Lord. But we don't think our Christmas emotions should be satiated at the expense of the Christ Child going about like a ragmuffin, begging from door to door of Church homes, seeking entrance to their festivities.

It is certainly no credit to Christians if the days before, and "The Day" are so crowded with temporal activities that there is no time for worship, for singing the carols, for listening to the Bible story of the Savior. There is nothing commendable about a system of gift giving whereby Christian families "must" expend every last cent of cash and available credit in order to stay "in the running" with their relationships, circle of friends and associates. This, often to the financial neglect of the needs of their church and denomination; not only at Christmas time—but for the whole year, as the "time-payments" on the Christmas spree must be met!

Every effort will be made in the next several weeks on the part of commercial interests to draw you completely away from a Christ-centered Christmas. You will find many time-consuming activities around your home which will tempt you to short-change your Bible reading and prayer periods, to neglect the spiritual counselling of your children. In short, Christians, in order to have a sane, worshipful Christian Christmas are going to have to exercise the very best spiritual discipline on themselves and in their homes.

This is no idle tale we have been telling. Give thought to what we have said. Remember that the parents of the Christ Child came knocking on the doors of Bethlehem and found them closed to them. Are we any less guilty when Christ today knocks, saying, "Give Me first, thy heart; then thy time, thy substance. Place Me in the place of honor in your Christmas activities."?

The time to start is now. Thanksgiving may or may not be over as you read these words. We urge each Brethren to take advantage of the spiritual help provided in the Thanksgiving to Christmas Bible readings as they appear in this **Evangelist.** We urge you to attend the services of your church, to help in the Christmas cantata or program. We urge teachers and parents to reach tender hearts at this time with the true fact of Christmas—the Christ Child the Son of God, the redeemer of the soul for those who believe in Him, accept Him and follow Him. Heaven and eternity may well rest on what we do and teach from now through Christmas. W. S. B.

Moderator's Address 1956 Ohio District Conference

THE CHURCH UNITED

Rev. John T. Byler

Text: "God hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." Ephesians 1:22-23.

OUR CONFERENCE THEME was indicated in the splendid address brought by our Vice-Moderator in this afternoon's session, and he indicated some very worthwhile thoughts for our consideration as he brought his assigned subject: "I will build My Church."

Your Committee, when it met to formulate this conference program, assigned to your Moderator, the subject: "The Church United." This theme, in a sense, might be considered in a very specific area of thought—dealing primarily with ways and means of keeping the church working peacefully and in harmony on a single purpose. And certainly this is of utmost importance.

But, since it is usually expected of the Moderator, that he bring, along with his message, some recommendations if there be any to offer, I have taken the liberty of being a bit more general in my message.

In fact—the Church cannot be truly united in any sense of the word, unless it successfully carries out its program in all of the areas that shall be spoken of by our various conference speakers.

You will notice that in addition to the topics assigned to the Vice Moderator and the Moderator we are to hear messages on: "The Church At Prayer," "The Church Witnessing," "The Church Filled With The Holy Spirit," and "The Church Triumphant," during these days of conference.

And, I say once again, it is not possible for any church to truly be united unless it gives due consideration to each of these areas.

There is no one here who is better aware of the fact that this is a feeble effort to cover a big subject than your Moderator. But in the process of attempting to prepare my message, I tried to think of what should be included to make the Church truly united. My conclusions can best be summed up in a simple little outline made up of four parts. You are privileged to add or subtract as you see fit.

To be truly united, it seems to me that the Church needs to be united in its

a. Leadership
b. Membership
c. Purpose
d. Functioning

I. THE CHURCH'S LEADERSHIP—JESUS CHRIST

In Matthew 16:18—our Conference Text—Jesus said **"I will build my church."**

1. Christ is Head for He created the Church.

The Church of Jesus Christ was founded by Him, and the Scripture speaks plainly of Him as the Head. Ephesians 1:22-23 "God hath put all things under His feet and gave him to be the head over all things to the church Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."

Here is evidence enough to let us know without doubt about the origin of the church. It is not of human beginning. Christ is plainly spoken of as the Head.

The Church is just as plainly spoken of as the Body. Is it not true that the primary reason for the many church divisions and cleavages during the centuries since Jesus walked upon the earth is that men have tried to be the Head of the Church themselves instead of recognizing Christ as Head? Look at the many sects and cults and differing religious groups today who are the followers of certain human leaders. Paul had something to say of this when he reminded his followers that they were not "Of Apollos or Paul" but they belonged to Christ. The song writer had the right idea when he wrote:

"The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord:
She is His new creation by water and the word:
From Heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life he died."

Yes! Christ is the Head of the Church, and any Church which does not accept Him as such is not of the true Church.

2. Christ is Head for He purchased the Church.

But Christ is also the Head by virtue of His payment of Himself as the purchase price of the church. He purchased the Church on Calvary's Cross and paid the price with His blood. Ephesians: 5:25 "Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself for it!"

A very popular idea has been promoted—possibly because of the radio religious programs, that

"A man can be a Christian outside of the Church." But this is a man-made teaching. No where in the Scriptures do we read of any Christian apart from the Church. Never do we hear of any Christian Brotherhood except as it is to be found in the Church.

3. Christ is the Head for He provides the Church's Life Blood.

The Church—apart from Christ has no vitality or life. I read this week of a girl in her 20's who has no sense of pain. The article indicates that her body is a mass of scars and blemishes because she has never suffered pain. She has no knowledge of being burned until she could smell burning flesh. She knew nothing of any cut or bump until she would see the blood coming from the wound. Imagine, if you can, the awfulness of life without any of the senses. BUT THAT WOULD BE A TRUE PICTURE OF ANY ATTEMPT TO FORM A CHURCH WITHOUT CHRIST AS THE HEAD.

"Because I live, ye shall live also."
"I live, yet not I, for Christ liveth in me."
"In Him we live, and move, and have our being."

II. THE CHURCH'S MEMBERSHIP—THE BODY OF CHRIST.

The Church—the Body of Christ—is the agency through which Christ does His work in the world. Without this body, Jesus can be nothing more than a vague spiritual influence and not a vital force in the life of mankind. WE—the members of the Church—HIS BODY—are His hands, His feet, His voice. The great works that have been accomplished throughout the world have been fulfilled through the Church.

It is the Church that kept Christianity alive through the dark ages.

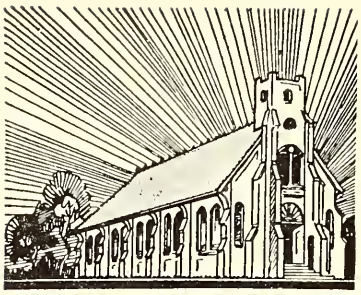
It is the Church that preserved the manuscripts of the Bible.

It is the Church that sent missionaries throughout Europe, and the United States and around the world.

It is the Church that pioneered in education, that built hospitals and orphanages and championed the cause of human rights in all areas of life.

When the Church is strong, Christ becomes strong;

When the Church is weak, Christ becomes almost powerless so far as His earthly work is concerned.



Christ has worked through the Church in the past and it is the agency through which He chooses to carry out His program today. It will also be the method whereby He accomplishes His mission on earth in the future. And only when the Church—the Body—is in close harmony and UNITY with the Head—Jesus Christ—can the Church fulfill its work on the earth.

III. THE CHURCH'S PURPOSE——ITS AIMS.

Paul tells us that Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it. The Church was so important to Him that He willingly suffered and died that man might be reborn —that those who believed in Him might hold membership in His Body and gain Eternal Life.

There can then be no other purpose or aim than to carry out the program upon the earth that Jesus started. My text says that God hath put all things under His feet and gave Him to be the Head over all things to the church, which is His body, **the fullness of Him that filleth all in all.**

Christ purposes to fill us—His Body—with all fullness, that we might better be able to fulfill the purpose of the Church. (Too often, we sorrowfully must admit, the church is not always filled with His fulness. Too often as members we remain "babes in Christ" needing to be fed on milk rather than on the meat of the Word.)

But we need to remember something—whether we are weak or whether we are strong. THE CHURCH—AS THE BODY OF CHRIST—IS THE CONTINUATION OF HIS EARTHLY LIFE AND MINISTRY.

Mark—in the beginning of his gospel says:

"The **beginning** of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."

Luke—in Acts says: "The former treatise, O Theophilus, have I made, of all that Jesus began both to do and to teach."

Both writers emphasized the fact that Jesus' earthly ministry was only a beginning. THE CHURCH WHICH CHRIST ESTABLISHED—HAS AS ITS PURPOSE, AND ITS ONLY PURPOSE, THE CONTINUATION OF THE WORK WHICH HE BEGAN. We should never overlook the fact that the Church—truly united to its Head—never needs to apologize for its work.

We bear credentials—the seal of authority that Christ himself gave.

"AS MY FATHER HATH SENT ME, EVEN SO SEND I YOU!" "GO YE THEREFORE, AND TEACH ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE

FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY GHOST." "THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME."

These are commands to the Church—to Christ's Body—NOT TO AN INDIVIDUAL. These are impossible of accomplishment by individuals. These are group assignments. These are the purpose and program of the Church, united to its head. The Church is the only agency in all of the world that has been authorized to carry out these functions.

IV. THE CHURCH'S FUNCTIONING—or carrying out its effort.

Sometimes we get a rather peculiar idea that Church membership is limited to a certain branch of believers, or those who meet certain standards or requirements.

We need to go back to our Conference theme and text, now and then, and reread the words of Christ. Jesus said: "Upon this rock I will build my Church"—the great confession of Christ as Lord that Peter made.

This is the basis of membership in the Church of Christ—BELIEF IN JESUS AS LORD! This may mean that we have to recognize others who believe in Christ as Lord—even though they don't wash feet, or practice triune immersion. And let me hastily say, lest I be misunderstood, that I firmly believe that these are definitely taught in the Scriptures and should be practiced. BUT THEY ARE NOT THE FOUNDATION UPON WHICH THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST IS BUILT AND SHOULD NOT BE TREATED AS SUCH.

We have been critical of those who look upon us as non-Christian because we fail to wear certain cuts of clothing, or head-dresses, or because we travel by automobile instead of by horse and buggy—or because we don't speak in tongues. We immediately agree that these are not foundation stones in the Church of Christ. And as we agree to this, we need to remember what the Foundation consists of—A FIRM BELIEF IN JESUS CHRIST AS LORD. With that in mind, I should like to relate an incident which seems to me shows to some extent the functioning of the church in actual practice:

"A woman in Labrador had tuberculosis of the ankle, and Dr. Wilfred Grenfell cut off her leg. On his next visit to the United States, when speaking in a Congregational Church, he asked if anyone knew of a person who could donate an artificial limb to the needy woman. After the address a Methodist woman went up to him and said that her husband, a Presbyterian, had died and left behind him a good wooden leg. Said Grenfell: "When I, an Episcopalian, took that Presbyterian leg, given to me by a Methodist in a Congregational Church, back to Labrador, it fitted my Roman Catholic friend and she was able to walk." Perhaps it would be going to extremes to say that this is what we mean when we say the Church must carry out a functioning program of this nature AND YET—IS IT?

Christ died for the Church, and whether the members of his body are Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Brethren or Roman Catholics, the work of that Body is to work in harmony for the glory of God and to bring souls to Him.

Haven't we been a bit selfish in looking over our opportunities and responsibilities? Haven't we sometimes failed to launch out into new channels because of the fact that these channels didn't always follow the patterns of tradition that we have thought so important?

Let me be more specific. What is the policy of our church in regard to the establishment of new churches for example?

1. Usually we want to take a survey of the community to see if the right type of people dwell within it. And there is no question in my mind about the fact that some people make better church people than others. BUT—"Christ came to seek and to save those who are lost" and the side of the railroad track on which people live is not the point in consideration.

2. A second point of consideration that seems to me all too important in our thinking when we begin a new work is "Is there a nucleus of Brethren People?" Jesus didn't look to a certain class to establish His church. He didn't even confine the group to his own race. The Bible says "He came unto His own but His own received Him not." I thank God that He was not easily discouraged but kept on in spite of rejections and opposition, and His Church was established. It was only a short time until there were many different races and nationalities represented in the Church of Christ. And had this not been the case, there would certainly have been no room for us.

I am not coming to you with any spectacular suggestions today. I am not even undertaking any specific recommendations. I simply am making an urgent plea to this assembly to remember our privileges and obligations as members of the Body of Christ. I am urging that we be Christians first and Brethren second.

I never feel too badly when a talented young person called by God into active service for Him—feels that he can be a more effective worker in a denomination rather than the Brethren Church. Of course I am happy if I can have a part in keeping him in my church and my denomination. But I don't count his going into another Christian group a complete loss, for, if he is a member of the

(Continued on Page 8)

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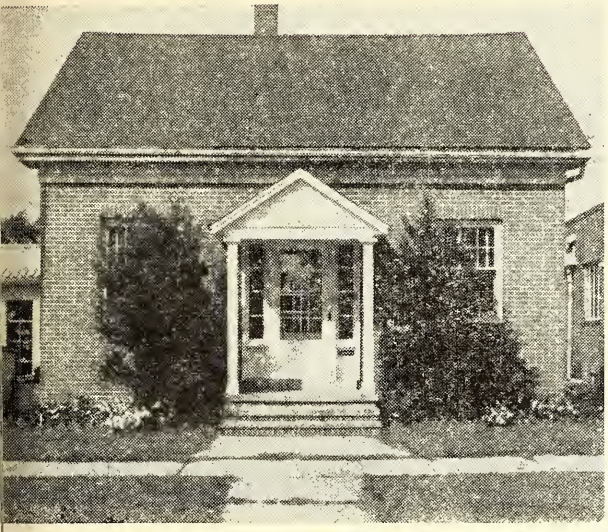
for BRETHREN HOME MISSIONS during November an offering EQUAL to our Home Mission Needs and our ADVANCED Home Mission Program.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

Missionary Board Quarters



HERE is the attractive little building in which the Missionary Board offices are now located. The address is 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

For a number of years we had office rooms in the Brethren Publishing House; but the space was not adequate to our needs, and the Publishing Company needed the rooms we were occupying. Now we are renting this entire house next door to our former location, where we have more room for equipment, supplies, literature, and better accommodations for board meetings and conferences with missionary candidates. We are hoping to maintain our identity and not be considered a part of another board or organization.

Remember—we are the:

MISSIONARY BOARD of the BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Avenue
Ashland, Ohio

Come to see us when you are in town.

YOUR DECISION A DETERMINING FACTOR

WOULD YOU SIT QUIETLY by and see the home mission program of your Brethren Church being curtailed for the want of loyal Christian stewards to support the program properly? Would you refuse to consider the implications of a curtailed home mission program—winning fewer people for Christ; teaching fewer people the Word of God; neglecting to follow the Lord's command; breaking confidence with those who represent you in this work?

Certainly no thoughtful Brethren would do so, willingly. Surely no dedicated and committed Christian would do so under any circumstances, for such a person has pledged himself to be faithful to the Lord in the very things for which home missions stand.

The decision of every member of the Brethren Church is a determining factor in the future effectiveness of our witness in the homeland. Whether we can cover the indebtedness incurred through the building program at Lost Creek, Kentucky (More money was expended to get the Classroom-Administration Building under roof than was contributed directly for this purpose) and whether sufficient funds will be provided for home mission churches and new church extension work will be pretty largely determined by the answer you give.

Will you please talk the matter over with God and make your decision according to His counsel?

EVER NEEDFUL IN HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

Prayer

The greatest need in mission work today

Gifts

The noblest way to express our gratitude to God for His redeeming love

Legacies and Bequests

A way to remember the work of home missions and church extension in your will. Make provision for the continuance of your testimony after you have departed this life.

Gift Annuities

A way to provide substantial sustaining gifts for the missionary cause and at the same time provide for an assured income

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Testimonial:

WHY I BELIEVE in home Missions and Church Extension. I know of just one reason why any church must have a home missions and church extension program and that reason is all-powerful. It is that such a program is thoroughly scriptural and innate in the three-fold purpose of the church. Whatever else the church may undertake, it pales before the obligation to carry the gospel to new fields. Nor does the obligation stop there. Once the seed is sown, it must be nurtured and the plant cultivated until it grows strong. This means evangelism, then new churches to carry on the later work. Church extension and home missions are as important to the life of the local church as food and drink are to the human body. Without them in either case the body will sicken and perish.

Dr. Glenn L. Clayton,
President—Ashland College.

THE CHURCH UNITED

(Continued from Page 6)

Body of Christ, his work under the standards of Eternity may be just as effective as in my own group—or even more so.

Our work, it seems to me, to make the Church a united effort in the Cause of our Lord, is to continue to exalt Him as the Head; to faithfully serve—even as insignificant members of His Body; and to continue carrying out the fundamental purpose of the Church—winning the lost.

We have no way of knowing the outreach of our own efforts. Someone invited a student in England to attend a religious service. The student, out of curiosity, decided to go to hear D. L. Moody preach. The words of Moody started a chain of events that took that student, Wilfred L. Grenfell, to Labrador to make of him a missionary doctor to the needy people of that bleak land.

A missionary whose name has long been forgotten once spoke to a congregation of people in Scotland about the work being done in Africa for Christ. A little boy heard that story, and it so gripped his heart and so stirred his imagination that he dedicated his life to God's service in Africa—with results that you are aware of. Did it matter whether Grenfell or Livingstone belonged to a particular denomination? NO! BUT IT DID MATTER THAT THEY BELONGED TO GOD AND WERE MEMBERS OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST.

I should like to close my message with a little story that helps me to see the functioning of the church in a needy world:

The story is one of a little girl who had recently moved into a new city. She became lost in a happy holiday crowd during its celebration and festivity. A policeman found her crying on a street corner. She told him her name but was unable to tell him where she lived. Since her father had been for a short time in the city, his name was neither in the phone book nor the city directory. The policeman was baffled, until, as he continued to talk with the child, she said: "If I could find the church, I would know my way home." The police officer inquired about the appearance of the church and from her description, knew at once which one she meant. He speedily took her there, and as she stood on the steps, she immediately pointed down the street and said: "This is the way!"

Soon she was at home. Her parents had taken her to the church the first Sunday they had been in the new community, and she was not lost when she was at the church.

"The world is full of lost souls seeking a kindly person who will help them find the way. The Church with Christ as its Head, with us as Members of His Body, fulfilling our purpose as God intended, will be a functioning unity, through which the lost will find their way to God.

New Lebanon, Ohio.

(Delivered at the Ohio District Conference, assembled at Linwood Park, Vermillion, Ohio, July 12, 1956.)

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

DRIFTING OR SAILING?

"He that endureth to the end shall be saved." Matthew 10:22.

THE WISE SAILOR never plans to allow his ship t drift into the harbor. Not until the hawser is se curely fastened to the pile or post to which it is to b secured does he leave his place in the pilot-house. Th ocean of life has too many hidden currents, and is sub ject to too many sudden storms for the navigator t take chances of leaving the helm care for itself. So lon as the ship is driving through the paths of the sea, tha long the master of the ship must battle the winds, th currents, and the unannounced storms that may sprin suddenly upon his craft.

On the sea of life nothing drifts except to the shore of destruction, and few of the ships that reach harbo have escaped battles with angry head winds and encour ters with the forces of nature which exert their influ ence upon the waters of the sea. Of course there may b pleasant weather upon the voyage of life, but never i the weather pleasant enough that the hand may leav the helm or the eye be taken away from the movement of the compass.

Where there is least sign or presence of storm the may be greatest peril of being carried away from th course by an unnoticed current. This, then, is the sure guarantee of a safe journey—"keep the eye upon th compass and the hand upon the rudder." This is the onl sure way of arriving at your desired haven. To let g the rudder and allow the ship to drift before the winc and waves may seem to be the easiest, most natural, ar even most enjoyable, thing to do. And you will make landing somewhere most certainly, but the place of yo landing may be far from the harbor you desire to reac and is more likely to be on the cruel rocks, where tl ship will be ground to pieces upon the merciless tee of the rocks, or else driven upon the sands where tl boisterous waves will pull your craft to pieces with the ceaseless poundings, or be drawn far asea to be sucke into the vortex of some mighty whirlpool and broug to rest upon the ocean's bed. Men cannot change the se they can only obey the laws of navigation.

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not po sible, note the following information. Church Treasure also please note:

HOME MISSION OFFERING

Make checks payable to the Missionary Board of t Brethren Church, and address Missionary Board of t Brethren Church, 530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio.

VANDERGRIFT HONORS REV. NAFF

Mrs. Margaret Learn, Church Financial Secretary, (left) presents gift of money to Rev. and Mrs. Naff.

On September 22nd 1956, Mr. and Mrs. David Rosensteel opened their home for the Pleasant View Brethren church to hold a farewell party for Rev. Paul M. Naff, who is leaving them. Sixty-three members were present. Cake, Ice cream, and coffee were served for refreshments.

A gift of money was presented to the minister and his wife. The Kings daughters class also gave Mrs. Naff a beautiful white Nylon stole for a farewell gift, in memory of the class.

Rev. Naff has been with us for 8 years, all but one month. It is with deep regret that we must see Rev. Naff leaving. His going will leave a big vacancy among us. In the eight years that Brother Naff has been with us, we have enjoyed a wonderful fellowship with him and his wife. Every sermon that he preached to us was an inspiration in some way or another. Our church will never forget his willingness to serve, especially at a time of sickness and death, he was always there.

He was a great help to us getting our new church foundation started. Rev. Naff introduced the combined morning worship service in this church, thus increasing our attendance greatly in the morning worship hour.

Mrs. David Rosensteel,
Apollo, Pa. Box 32.

IF YOU'RE GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES AND GETTING NOWHERE IN YOUR CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT, TRY PROPORTIONATE GIVING

WHAT IS IT?

Setting aside regularly something for God's work.
The amount is determined on a percentage basis. It can then go up or down with income.
Many Christians begin with ten percent.
From what is set aside we give to the work of the Lord.

WHAT CAN IT BE?

A means of saying "Thanks" to God.
A means to break the grip of selfishness in life.
A witness to others.
An experience in which we step out in faith and learn to trust.

Department of Stewardship Education,
Agustana Lutheran Church.

What's Doing in the Churches

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA REVIVAL

From October 8 to 21 South Bend had one of the finest evangelistic campaigns in its history. During the meeting we had 94 come to the front of the church to rededicate their lives, Pastor J. D. Hamel baptized 22 people, and 2 were taken into the church by letter; making a total of 118 decisions for which we praise the Lord.

It was a delightful experience for our church to have Evangelist Percy Miller, pastor of our Dayton, Ohio, Brethren Church and one of the busiest ministers in the brotherhood in our midst. His messages were thrilling and dynamic. The South Bend congregation was very enthusiastic in showing its love for this outstanding Brethren leader. Many calls were made during the meeting which added greatly to the splendid results. The meeting was well attended and various organizations and nearby Brethren Churches were represented by their pastor and people. Special music was rendered very effectively from night to night by various individuals and the Junior and Senior Choirs under the direction of Mrs. J. D. Hamel.

We will long remember the spiritual fellowship of Evangelist Percy Miller and the tremendous campaign.

Miss Lillie Garwood, Pastor's Secretary.

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN AT SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

For two weeks, October 8th through 21st, it was my privilege to be the preacher for an evangelistic meeting at the Brethren Church of South Bend, Indiana. Here is a church that has had excellent ministers in the past, and certainly now they have a man that is truly dedicated to the cause of Christ. He has certainly accepted his call and is taking it seriously. He is so full of zeal, interest and enthusiasm. He is also tireless in his work. If there ever was a man who has varied activities, and is called upon to perform varied activities (all related to the work of the Lord), here is the man. We need more men who have the pep, vim and vigor of Brother J. D. Hamel. He also has a helpmeet that is unsurpassed. They have two fine children, Joan and John, to keep them stepping, but it certainly does not take time from the Lord's work. It was my blessed privilege to spend the two weeks in the parsonage with this devoted couple.

During the campaign we had 118 decisions for Christ; there were 94 reconsecrations, 22 first time confessions, and two received by letter. This was truly a victory for which we praise the Lord.

The writer appreciated the opportunity of getting int the various homes and enjoying their splendid hospitalit Every kindness was extended to the Evangelist.

The attendance held up well throughout the meeting the interest and enthusiasm seemed to be high. We ap preciated so much the splendid help on the part of th organist, and the special numbers from evening to eve ning. Brother and Sister Hamel were a great help i the music part of the service; both using their musica instrument talents.

I want to say "Thanks" to the South Bend Congrega tion and Pastor for the privilege of being with you fo the two weeks. I want to thank all members and friend of the South Bend Church for their very generous mone tary gift, and other gifts.

I also want to thank my own Congregation, the Hill crest Brethren Church of Dayton, Ohio, for permittin me the time to be with these good people of South Ben

May our dear Lord richly bless every one of you an prosper you in His work. I shall long remember the spi itual fellowship of the Brethren Church of South Ben Indiana.

Percy C. Miller,,

WARSAW, INDIANA

The summer "slump" did not effect the attendanc too much. As has been the custom for the past few years the Sunday night service was discontinued during Jul and August but the Bible study with prayer was no dismissed. Following Conference, reports were given, an a number of special programs including films, musica programs; and then came October. This was an exceed ingly fruitful and busy month.. Homecoming was held o Oct. 7th. Dr. Leslie Lindower was the speaker for th day, as he was a former pastor, and was accompanie by Mrs. Lindower; they added much to the pleasure o the noon hour and afternoon fellowship. The service wa well attended. The Fuel Offering for the Church is als taken on this day.

Monday night the revival began, continuing for tw weeks. Again the church had the services of a forme pastor, Rev. Woodrow Brant, evangelist, and there wa felt that renewal of fellowship, as if one of our ow came home. Pastor and members joined in an all ou calling by phone and "wearing out of shoe leather," t encourage the attendance of the membership and to in vite the unchurched of the community to the service Mr. Albert Hartman was song leader and Mrs. Geraldin Grose, organist. Among the specials the Kosciusko Count Home Demonstration Choir filled the choir chairs on night and rendered a program; they remained throug the service and gave the closing number.

The visible results of the revival, were the baptis of fifteen and on the closing night of the services, th largest number surrounding the Communion tables th church has had for some time. Pastors and a number c members from nearby Brethren churches were amon those present on different nights during the reviva May friendship, fellowship and unified Christian effort keep alive the growth of His Work.

Mrs. Jennie Bennett, Corr. Sec.

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

TIOSA, INDIANA. Mrs. Otto Kath, Church Correspondent writes: "The Tiosa Brethren voted, September 24th, at their quarterly business meeting to call their pastor, Rev. Wayne Swihart, for a full time pastorate, which began on the first Sunday in October. This was a forward step for the church since never before in its history had the church been on a full-time basis."

BRIGHTON CHAPEL BRETHREN, HOWE, INDIANA. We quote from the Brighton bulletin for November 4th: "Over 70 people gathered last Sunday afternoon to enjoy our annual Homecoming Service. Rev. Spencer Gentle brought an inspiring message for the occasion. The offering for the building fund was over $90.00."

PERU, INDIANA. The First Brethren W. M. S. Public Service was held on November 4th. Guest speaker was Rev. O. W. Rees, former missionary to India.

DUTCHTOWN, BRETHREN, WARSAW, INDIANA. "On Sunday afternoon, October 21st, 33 members of the Dutchtown Congregation made a trip to the Brethren's Home at Flora. We took along a quantity of canned goods, eggs, apples, blankets and a serving cart for the Home. Rev. H. E. Eppley brought a message as a part of the service we held for the old folks. Also included on the program was the scripture and prayer by our pastor, Rev. George Pontius." There were also a number of vocal selections and group singing. Reported by Mrs. Robert Webster.

LANARK, ILLINOIS. Brother Francis Berkshire notes that eleven of their teachers attended the sessions of the National Sunday School Association convention in Chicago in October.

MANTECA, CALIF. We note that on a recent Sunday evening, Howard Crom showed film views in the Manteca church of some of the points of interest in the Brethren church, some pastors in the east who came from California, and their churches. A report of the late General Conference was also given by Mr. Crom.

ATTENTION

HISTORICAL DISPLAY

The Anniversary Program Committee of General Conference is appealing to the Denomination for information on historical pictures, objects of historical value, etc., which might be used in a Brethren Historical display at the 1957 and 1958 General Conferences.

Anyone possessing such items, or knowing the whereabouts of same, are asked to contact the chairman of the Committee, Rev. Percy C. Miller, by January 1, 1957. (Do not send any items you may have until specifically requested by the Chairman to do so.)

Rev. Percy C. Miller,
23 West Hillcrest,
Dayton 6, Ohio.

REV. AND MRS. HUSE HONORED AT FAREWELL DINNER
Meyersdale, Pennsylvania

A farewell dinner, honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Horace Huse, was held in the social rooms of the Main Street Brethren Church, Meyersdale, Pennsylvania, Sunday evening, October 28, 1956, at six o'clock. The Rev. Huse had been pastor of the congregation since July of 1953.

On Tuesday the Huses moved to their new home, Bunker Hill, Indiana, where he will be the pastor of the Loree Brethren Church. This church is located in a rural area.

An occasional chair was presented to the Huses, by the members of the congregation, in appreciation of their work here. A. L. McDaniel, vice moderator of the church, made the presentation speech. Miss Miriam M. Bird was the toastmistress. John H. Blocher, church moderator, gave the invocation and the benediction.

Miss Mary Ann Walker played a piano solo. Mrs. Paul McMillan, church organist and choir director, commended the pastor and his wife for their assistance in the choir. Mrs. Huse was an alto singer, and Pastor Huse was first tenor in the men's quartet. The choir then sang "The Old Church Bell."

Mrs. Harry T. Staub was the chairman of the dinner committee, and Mrs. Earl M. Walker was chairman of of the gift committee.

The Rev. D. C. White of Berlin, will be the full time supply pastor of the Main Street Brethren Church, until a new minister is secured.

Miriam M. Bird, Secretary.

ROCK OF AGES

This beautiful hymn, which is found in nearly every hymnbook in the English language, was written by Augustus M. Toplady in 1776. The author was the son of an English military officer and was educated in the University of Dublin in Ireland. He was converted to the Lord through the preaching of a layman at a gathering of a small number of people in a barn in an "obscure part of Ireland."

This was the favorite song of Prince Albert Edward, the husband of Queen Victoria. In his last moments he repeated it again and again. "I have riches and honor," he said, "but what could it help me now if I had nothing else?" Then he added:

"Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

When the great statesman, Gladstone, lay dying, he asked those about him to sing; and when they asked him what they should sing, he whispered: "Rock of Ages, cleft for me."—Sel.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"THIS WORLD IS TOO MUCH WITH US!"

"This world is too much with us!"
Now this precious truth I see,
For I cannot walk with Jesus
While this vain world walks with me.

I might climb up yonder mountains,
And all God's wondrous beauties see—
But I cannot see my Savior
While this world is beckoning me.

I might speak of Jesus' miracles,
That He did in Galilee;
But I cannot walk with Jesus
While this vain world talks with me.

I could search and search forever
For peace that lasts eternally,
But I'll have no peace with Jesus
While this vain world stays with me.

To this truth I've been enlightened;
Now by His matchless grace I'll be
Walking with my precious Jesus
Where the world will have no part with me.
—Pauline H. Barrett.

TO LOVE FORBIDDEN PLEASURES is not to love God (2 Tim. 3:4; 1 John 2:5). Cares, riches and pleasures choke out the spiritual life (Luke 8:14). To indulge in these things is to be spiritually dead (1 Tim. 5:6). The lust of the eyes (1 John 2:16) led Eve to her fall (Gen. 3:6). Job said that his heart walked after his eyes (Job 31:7). So the children of Israel were to forget the forbidden lusts they had learned in Egypt (Num. 33:52). Cultivating worldly pleasures annihilates baptismal vows (2 Peter 1:9). To take pleasure in seeing others do evil things classifies us along with them (Rom. 1:32). An evil tendency becomes a habit, and a fixed habit spells a destiny (Prov. 5:22). For such there is no Heaven (Gal. 5:19-21).

"Sow a thought and reap an act,
Sow an act and reap a habit,
Sow a habit and reap a character,
Sow a character and reap a destiny."

Wine is a mocker to kings (Prov. 20:1; Kings 16:8-10; 20:16), and to any one else who imbibes (Isaiah 28:7-9). The strange woman leads to Hell (Prov. 5:3-5; 7:26, 27) as Solomon learned to his sorrow (1 Kings 11:1). Wild oats bring a bumper crop (Job 20:11). The Christian does not trifle nor flirt with sin (2 Cor. 6:17; Matt. 5:8; 1 Tim. 2:22; Prov. 14:9).

" . . . fools make a mock of sin, will not believe
It carries such a dagger in its sleeve,
How can it be, say they, that such a thing
So full of sweetness ere should wear a sting?
They know not that it is the very spell
Of sin to make men laugh themselves to Hell."

"As He is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:1 Titus 2:12).

The Devil can get us through worldy possessior (Prov. 1:32). We are not to set our hearts on riche (Psalm 62:10; 1 Tim. 6:9). In prosperity men forsak God (Job 21:11-14, 17). Man cannot afford to live fc worldly possessions (1 Cor. 7:31; James 4:14; Psal 49:17). Jesus will take the world out of our hearts an put it on our hearts (Matt. 6:20; Luke 10:2). Worldl applause is not for Christians (Num. 22:15-17), but fc hypocrites (John 12:43; Jude 16) to draw them to destru tion (2 Chron. 26:15-16). Worldly companions destro spirituality (Prov. 13:20; Num. 11:4, 34; Hosea 7:8; Cor. 6:17). Seek rather the pleasures of saints (Psal 16:11; John 13:17; 1 John 5:4).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for December 2, 1956

LET NOT YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED

Lesson: John 14:1-14

" 'Trust in the Lord,' O troubled soul,
Rest in the arms of His care;
Whatever thy lot, It mattereth not,
For nothing can trouble thee there;
'Trust in the Lord,' O troubled soul,
Nothing can trouble thee there."

COMFORT FOR THE troubled heart is the subje of this week's lesson. No more appropriate tir could be found for the declaration of such a needed trutl Turmoil abroad! Unrest at home! Dissatisfaction withir Yet in such an hour Jesus whispers to the trusting hear **"Let not your heart be troubled."**

The Master spoke these wonderful words to His di ciples during perilous times. His betrayal and crucifixic were at hand. Soon He would be taken from them. The faith would be rudely shaken. Inward rest and assuran were imperative if they would remain stedfast in th faith of the Master.

JESUS COMFORTS HIS FOLLOWERS WITH TH PROMISE OF HIS SURE RETURN.

"I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go . . . will come again, and receive you unto Myself, that whe I am, there ye may be also."

It was not easy for the disciples to hear their Lo speak of leaving them. But how wonderful it was to kno they would some day join Him! Even now, Jesus sai He was preparing eternal dwelling-places (exact mea ing of word "mansions") for them. What a comfort know these things!

JESUS COMFORTS HIS FOLLOWERS WITH THE TRUTH OF HIS UNION WITH THE FATHER.

"You must believe Me, that I am in union with the Father and that the Father is in union with Me, or else you must do so because of the very things that I am doing" (Williams trans.).

We the followers of Jesus Christ must have faith and full confidence that He is the Divine Son of God even as He said. Such faith will enable us to believe that all He said about Himself is true, and that all He promised He will fulfill because He is GOD incarnate in the flesh!

Think of the promises He made!

"I am the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger" (John 6:35).

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

"I will not leave you comfortless (lit. "orphans")" (John 14:18).

If Jesus Christ is not all He claimed to be—the Divine Son of God—then such promises as these are vain and worthless! But He is God's only begotten Son; and by personal choice He can be our Saviour and Lord!

JESUS COMFORTS HIS FOLLOWERS WITH HIS PROMISE OF ANSWERED PRAYER.

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in My name, I will do it."

It is very clear in the context that this promise is conditional. Christ has promised to grant the petition of that one who exercises faith in God the Son and God the Father (vs. 11); who asks the request in the name of Jesus (vs. 13); and who has in mind the glory of God (vs. 13).

God's people need not be troubled so long as they have this message of Divine Comfort from the lips of Jesus to sustain them: **"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you . . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid"** (John 14:27).

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

HOW TO REACH PARENTS

THE HOME is the fundamental unit of society—even Christian society. Children need the comfort and security of home; all child specialists are agreed in this. A Christ-centered home is vital to a child's proper growth in all phases of life.

Our appeal to parents, therefore, is twofold. (1) We appeal to their interest in their children. This is particularly effective with new parents but is true of all. (2) We appeal to their interest in themselves. It has been said that "the unsaved parent is probably more interested in himself than in statistics about juvenile delinquency."

We must stress the importance of the entire family's attending Sunday school. This could be a special emphasis for a quarter or even a full year. There is usually a large potential in the group who attend church but are not enlisted for the Sunday school.

Make use of printed matter in reaching parents. When a new child is enrolled, his parents' name should immediately be added to all church mailing lists. Utilize such printed items as cradle roll packets, tracts sent home with children, lesson leaflets, Sunday school papers, report cards, and church bulletins.

Direct mail promotion (correspondence) is always effective. At least every quarter the child's teacher or department superintendent should send a letter to the parents. The adult class in which the parents should be enrolled may also write the prospects. Be alert for special opportunities for correspondence, such as when a child accepts Christ or pledges his life for full-time service.

Visitation may be carried on similarly to direct mail promotion. The child's teacher should visit his home at least twice a year. The adult class in which the parents should be enrolled may also make personal contact.

Special occasions will help to reach parents. Start a parent-teacher group and hold monthly meetings. Observe Sunday School Night in church, using children for special music, devotions, ushers, etc. Have Family Night gatherings; start a children's choir; observe Mother's Day and Father's Day; have graduation ceremonies on Promotion Day; build up Rally Day; close Vacation Bible School with a public program. These are just a few of the ideas that have been tried—and worked—in reaching parents through the Sunday school.

Finally, tell parents what they can do to help their children. You know, sometimes we have not because we ask not—even in this realm. Parents can help their children with memory work; they can ask the children to review what they have learned; they can assist in lesson preparation; they can bring the children to Sunday school; they can establish a family altar.

It is true that many times "a little child shall lead them." Therefore let us redouble our efforts to win parents to Jesus Christ through their children in Sunday school.—Adapted.

January 18, 19, 20, 1957

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

BRETHREN YOUTH IS THANKFUL, TOO

AT THIS TIME OF YEAR when you are being asked to list the things for which you are thankful and when different groups are doing the same thing, we want you to know that Brethren Youth is very thankful for many things too. Following is a list of some of these things:

—The grace and love of our Lord which motivates us into greater dedication.

The Brethren Church and her areas of belief and service.

—Pastors and advisors that are helping to build our youth program.

—Interested young people who support rallies and conferences.

—Church members who can visualize the need for challenging young lives and support steps in that direction.

—We are very thankful for Brethren Youth as a whole on every level and thank God for the direction He has given to such an expanding program.

I give my personal thanks for the encouraging words that come from you to the office from time to time, and I hope that one year from now we can be even more thankful because of greater accomplishments that will be done in the Lord's name. "O, give thanks unto the Lord" by living consecrated lives.

We still have some ROOSTERS that should be BOOSTERS. Join the Brethren Youth Booster Club this week. $1.00 is just the minimum donation for one year. Ask your young people about the organization.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND

Quite by chance, on Nov. 2nd I stopped in Linwood the very evening they were planning to have their youth meeting, for which I was very glad. They used some fine musical talent in presenting their Thanksgiving program. Then we spent some time talking shop about the workings of B. Y. The contact was valuable to me and I hope that their group will grow in the future. I'm glad I stopped in. Besides, the refreshments were extra good, too.

NOVEMBER IS BRETHREN YOUTH MEMBERSHIP MONTH. Everyone in your B. Y. C. should be carrying a Membership Card by this time. Ask your pastor about this if you don't have yours yet.

YES, THRILLING!

While I was visiting the Church World Service processing center at New Windsor, Maryland, on Nov. 2nd, a rush order came in for over 3500 blankets to be flown over to war-torn Hungary. Doffing my good suit for some overalls, I helped to load the semi-truck that was leavin yet that night for New York.

It was really thrilling to know that the very blanke we were tossing up on the truck would be helping clothe someone in Hungary within the next two days. also made me thankful that we live in U. S. A. whe bombs have never fallen. More of us ought to be helpir those who have suffered and have so little. The Bret ren Church, which we love so much, should be livir its peace position more positively. Ask God to lead into this area of Christian opportunity.

MIAMI VALLEY BRETHREN YOUTH

Plan now to attend your next District Brethren You Rally at Pleasant Hill on December 9th (this year). The is inspiration in meeting together with new friends Christ's name. But you can't experience this truth if y stay at home at rally-time. Save the date now and pr for the success of the day's program.

GO GO GOALS

Have you begun to meet this year's goals yet and a banner society? Now is the time to get to work—n next June. Follow the suggestions for meetings, send one of your weekly offerings, work on the project, pu the Booster Club, sign a membership card and begin meet every goal you can right now. Let's go all out th year in our goals!

WHO STOPPED THE MUSIC?

THE AMBASSADOR QUARTET is not extinct ju because their summer's venture is over. Although n nearly as active in the singing field since school h started, they nevertheless are practicing and presenti a program now and then.

For example:

1. THE AMBASSADORS sang for a Sunday Sch class party in Wooster, Ohio on November 20th, and

2. They will be at the LOUISVILLE BRETHRE CHURCH for an evening program on December 2nd. you're in the locality, drop over (not dead, just ove

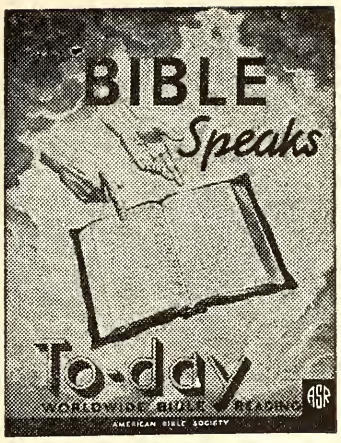
Furthermore, as soon as the boat and plane compani come through with sailing and flying dates, prices, a arrival times, Rolf can begin to write to his contacts Germany and arrange definite dates and programs to with them next summer. Please keep praying for t work. It's yours. Rolf Stolpner's address is 140 Ch tenden, Columbus 10, Ohio. Drop him a line.

THE FISHBOWL looks a little haggard, because hasn't been fed for some time now. I'll have to see wh can be done about that. Will you help?

Young Men's and Boys Brotherhood Progra

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor

Due to the illness of the Topic-Editor of the Broth hood Program, the program for the month of Decem does not appear this month. A suggestion made Brother Miller would be to have a Christmas party—si carols, and go caroling.



For the thirteenth year millions of Americans of all faiths will join in daily Bible reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas. This Worldwide Bible Reading is sponsored by the American Bible Society. The program was observed last year in 49 countries.

The readings below were selected by numerous denominations. They are without note or comment, and one may use any version of the Bible he prefers.

NOVEMBER

22 Thanksgiving ..... Deuteronomy 5:1-21
23 ..... Psalms 19:1-14
24 ..... Psalms 27:1-14
25 Sunday ..... Psalms 46:1-11
26 ..... Psalms 103:1-22
27 ..... Psalms 121:1-8
130:1-8
28 ..... Psalms 145:1-21
29 ..... Proverbs 3:1-20
30 ..... Isaiah 40:1-11, 28-31

DECEMBER

1 ..... Isaiah 55:1-13
2 Advent ..... Luke 6:20-49
3 ..... John 1:1-28
4 ..... John 1:29-51
5 ..... John 3:1-36
6 ..... John 4:1-38
7 ..... John 15:1-27
8 ..... John 17:1-26
9 Universal Bible Sunday ..... Luke 8:1-21
10 ..... Acts 17:16-34
11 ..... Romans 8:1-39
12 ..... Romans 12:1-21
13 ..... 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
14 ..... Philippians 4:1-23
15 ..... Hebrews 11:1-40
16 Sunday ..... Luke 10:23-42
17 ..... Luke 11:1-17
18 ..... Luke 12:22-34
19 ..... Luke 15:1-10
20 ..... Luke 15:11-32
21 ..... Luke 1:1-23
22 ..... Luke 1:24-38
23 Sunday ..... Luke 1:39-56
24 ..... Luke 1:57-80
25 Christmas ..... Luke 2:1-20

Cut out the list above and use it as a bookmark in your Bible.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

THERE ARE MANY THINGS that have come into my life and have been a help to me from others. A Methodist minister explained the Lord's Prayer to us in a wonderful way and it has always been an inspiration to me in my daily living. I try to remind myself frequently of his helpful words. He asked if we really prayed the Lord's prayer or were we content to just repeat the words with no thought about the real meaning?

The one part of the prayer that he made very real to all of us concerned the phrase "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." I have learned that if we hold petty grudges in our hearts they will soon crowd out the Love of God. If we do not forgive others, how can we expect our Heavenly Father to forgive us? We need His forgiveness daily! So if someone says something or does something to hurt us, let us just take our burden to the Lord and He will give us grace to forgive and strength to not hold a grudge.

With this attitude towards others and God's Spirit within us we can really pray the Lord's prayer and feel that we have been talking to our Heavenly Father. In Jesus' name then let us pray His prayer:

"Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Mrs. Walter Wissinger,
Falls City, Nebr.

COMING EVENTS

NORTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT
LAYMEN'S MEETING
South Bend Brethren Church
1214 S. Michigan St.,
South Bend, Indiana
Monday, December 3rd

A good attendance desired. Good program planned. Election of Officers.

Supper served from 5:00-6:00 P. M. (slow) CST; 6:00-7:00 P. M. (fast) DST.

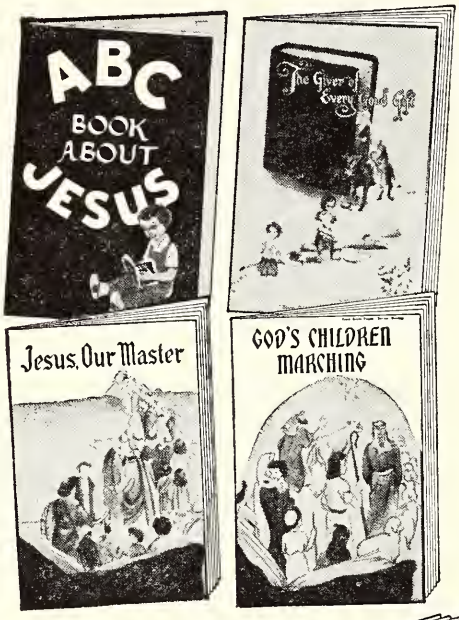
Send reservations to First Brethren Church, 1214 S. Michigan St., South Bend, Indiana, not later than Nov. 30th.

Richard Best, Sec'y.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

Gift BOOKLETS

LOW-COST DE LUXE GREETINGS FOR ALL-OCCASION AWARDS



FOR CHILDREN

Inexpensive gift or award booklets for Beginner and Primary children. Each with full-color Bible pictures. Size of each, 4 x 6 inches, 32 pages. Order a quantity for Promotion Day, Christmas, Easter, or Children's Day. Each book .....18c.

ABC BOOK ABOUT JESUS

No. 2000. Full color on every page, featuring pictures of events in life of Jesus, many centered around the Nativity. Each page also contains large alphabet letter, a rhyming picture title, and simple Scripture.

THE GIVER OF EVERY GOOD GIFT

No. 2001. Fascinating stories of Creation, Noah, David's Praises, the Prodigal Son, the Christ-child, and the Lord's Prayer, illustrating God's gift to us of life, friends, daily care, His Son, and home and parents.

JESUS, OUR BEST FRIEND

No. 2002. The much-loved stories of the Boy Jesus in the Temple, the Samaritan Woman, Healing the Lame Man, Zacchaeus, Blessing the Children, Mary and Martha, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection.

GOD'S CHILDREN MARCHING

No. 2005. A child's story of God's people on their long march to the promised land.

JESUS, OUR MASTER

No. 2006. Stories concern Jesus and the Four Fishermen, A Blind Man, A Nobleman's Son, and others, plus four proving Jesus as the Son of God.

HEROES WHO CHOSE THE RIGHT

No. 2009. Includes stories on Elijah, Micaiah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Esther, Nehemiah, John, and Jesus.

BIBLE TREASURES

No. 2031. Choicest portions of Scripture . . . 23rd Psalm, 10 Commandments, Beatitudes, Lord's Prayer, etc. 16 pages.

Five beautiful gift booklets of excellent taste and reverence, for inexpensive gifts to new members, birthday awards, and greetings. Nos. 2035 and 2038 are especially designed for sick and shut-in. Each with 16 full-color pictures. 32 pages, 4 x 6 inches. White mailing envelopes included.

Each, 22c.

FAVORITE PSALMS

No. 2041. Lovely booklet illustrating 18 best-loved psalms on confidence, trust, worship, meditation, hope, blessing, confession, prayer, etc.

WORDS OF CHRIST

No. 2039. Fifteen incidents from Christ's life told in dramatic paintings. Bible stories included.

PRELUDE TO PRAYER

No. 2033. Contains poetry, Scripture, paintings, and meditations on the subject of prayer.

CHEER ALONG THE WAY

No. 2035. A wonderful collection of reproductions of Biblical paintings, devotionals, Scripture verses, and poetry. In the center of the booklet is an unusual "Road to Recovery" map.

GARDEN OF CHEER

No. 2038. Features poetry, reproductions of Biblical paintings, quotations, devotional thoughts, Scripture, Bible readings, and facts about faith, serenity, strength, and courage.

On all book orders please add ten cents for postage.

The Brethren Publishing Company
524 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

MANCHESTER COLLEGE LIBRARY
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

The ancient Church built over the spot where tradition says the Christ-child was born.

—Photo by Delbert B. Flora.

VOL. LXXVIII December 1, 1956 No. 47

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. Sunday evening, November 18th, a "Missionary Service" was held. This was the first evening service programmed for the Sarasota church, according to the Sarasota bulletin. Mrs. Peggy Beekley was the speaker.

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. The Father and Son banquet was held the evening of November 15th.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The St. James church was host to the Union Thanksgiving service on November 21st. Rev. Ezra Dunnavant, of the Downsville Christian church, was the speaker.

The Young Married Peoples Class of the St. James church has taken the project of curtaining off the church basement into six class rooms. Bark Cloth curtains suspended on aluminum track, will be used.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND. A Pre-Thanksgiving Service was presented by the Crusaders Youth Choir, under the direction of Mrs. L. O. McCartneysmith, on Novmber 21st.

VINCO, PENNA. Jackson Township School teachers and School Board members were guests of the Vinco church at services on November 18th. Dr. Walter C. Davis, Superintendent of Johnstown schools, was the speaker.

The W. M. S. held their book review the evening of November 16th, with Miss Elsie Kels as speaker.

CAMERON, W. VA. Work continues on the improvement program for the Cameron church basement.

The Union Thanksgiving service was held in the Cameron Brethren Church on November 21st. Rev. Robert Shaffer of the First Presbyterian church was speaker.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO. Brother L. V. King notes that the Louisville Ministerial Association met in the Brethren church for a meeting and carry-in dinner on November 12th.

Four new members were baptized and received into the church recently.

The Community Thanksgiving service was held in the Brethren Church on Thanksgiving morning.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. Pastor John T. Byler was guest speaker in the Union Thanksgiving service which was held November 21st in the Johnsville E. U. B. church.

The New Lebanon Laymen spent two nights recently painting approximately 75 window sash for their new church addition. Brother Byler notes that the contracto expected to have all of the doors and windows in plac before long.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. Mrs. Frank Morrison, Ohio Dis trict W. M. S. President, of Dayton, was the speaker a the Smithville W. M. S. Public service on November 18tl

WARSAW, INDIANA. The Junior Church presented Thanksgiving program at the evening service on Novem ber 18th.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA. We quote from the Nappane bulletin: "At a special business meeting the church de cided to start making plans for building a new parsonag It will be built on the vacant lot on North Nappane Street. A parsonage building committee has been ap pointed."

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Brother N. V. Leatherma was the guest speaker at the 70th anniversary progra in the South Bend church on November 25th. Brothe Leatherman was pastor of the South Bend church fro 1925 to 1931.

BRIGHTON CHAPEL BRETHREN, HOWE, INDIAN The Community Service of Thanksgiving was held in th Brighton Chapel the evening of November 20th.

LOREE BRETHREN. BUNKER HILL, INDIANA. reception for Brother and Sister Horace Huse, new pa tor and wife, was held at the church on November 20t

The W. M. S. Public Service was held on Novemb 11th. A play, "The Open Window," was presented by th members of the Society.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Special Thanksgiving Servic were held Thursday and Friday evenings, November 22r and 23rd.

COMING SOON—

Special news about your Evangelist

Next week, we will tell you about some si nificant and important changes to take plac relative to your Church paper. The Publicatio Board has adopted some changes which will tal effect on January 1, 1957—designed to bring t you a more serviceable and valuable **Evangeli** each week of the year.

WATCH FOR THE FULL STORY NEX WEEK.

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

Published weekly, except the fourth week in July and the last week in December.

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The Editor's Pulpit

The White Gift Emphasis

SOME TIME AGO we saw a sign which read something like this: "Christ gave His all. What will you give to further His work?" The question is of utmost importance to us right now inasmuch as we are on the threshhold of the Christmas gift season. It is more so, when we realize that a very important organization in the Brethren Church is, this month, setting about the raising of its funds for the year's operation.

WHITE GIFT giving is always associated with Christmas. It is most appropriate then, that the Sunday School Board of the Brethren church should, at this time, come to the Brethren Church for White Gift offerings in support of its great program of service to the Church.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD of the Brethren Church is an old friend in a new dress this year. Formerly known as the National Sunday School Association of the Brethren Church, it, at General Conference time last fall, on the suggestion of the Polity Committee, and by action of Conference, dropped its well known title and became known as The Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church. You who have been regular and faithful givers to this work each year will recognize that only the name has been changed. The program, aims and work of the organization remain essentially the same.

JUST WHAT IS THAT WORK? This issue of the **Evangelist** contains much valuable material contributed by various members of the Sunday School Board, explaining their work and service to the Church. We urge your careful reading and study thereof.

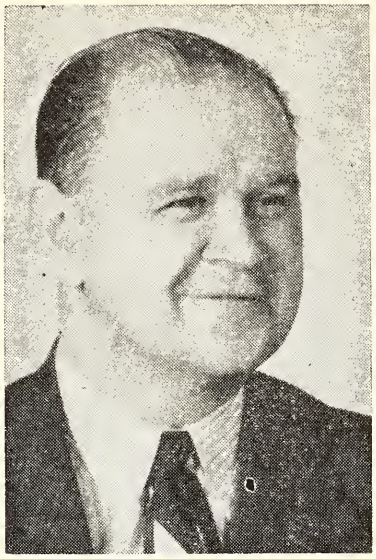
To, in a few sentences, describe the work of the Sunday School Board, is a large task. We would have to tell of the dozens and dozens of Brethren young people who each year are touched and influenced by the work of this Board in our summer camps. We would have to point to present denominational leaders, pastors, and wives, missionaries, local church workers, etc., who, in years past have been led through the camp experience to dedicate their lives to Christ and His service. We would have to tell of the constant effort of the Sunday School Board in helping to establish and support these District Brethren young peoples' camps.

We would also have to tell of the support given through the years to Ashland Seminary; we could not even estimate the eternal good which has been done because the Sunday School Board provided its annual assistance to the Seminary in its task of training young men and women for Christian service.

More recently we would have to tell of the Board's work in Extension—the placing of a qualified, consecrated man in the field for the purpose of conducting leadership training courses and Sunday school workshops. We would also have to tell you of their plans and desire for further efforts in this and other directions—that is, provided funds are provided by the Brethren at this White Gift offering time. Then we could also tell you of their work in the field of Brethren Sunday School literature in cooperation with the Brethren Publishing Company.

So, Brethren, you see we would have a pretty big task to perform if we were to try to tell you all about the work of the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church.

Others have done that for you in the pages which follow. Christ gave His all, that we might live. What will you give in your White Gifts, that, through the work of the Sunday School Board, the knowledge of the Christ and His saving grace might be better taught and spread throughout our church, in all age groups—and even unto the ends of the earth? W. S. B.



Walter Wertz of Conemaugh, Pennsylvania, is president of The Sunday School Board and a veteran of many years' camping experience.

A Greater Camp Program

Walter C. Wertz

THE BRETHREN CHURCH, since the late twenties, has seen a need for Brethren Sunday School camps. In our Brotherhood we have seen the camp program grow from a camp in one District to a camp in practically every district of our denomination. This means that Brethren camps are found from the East Coast to the Pacific Coast.

At our last National Conference we were delighted to hear of the interest of the Arizona Brethren in a camping program for their young folk. Several car loads of young people went from Tucson to the California camp. This necessitated even staying over night in a motel, meals enroute in restaurants—yet these people wanted to go to a **Brethren camp.** With the possibility of another church in the state of Arizona, these Brethren are considering renting a camp site a little closer to the Tucson-Phoenix area.

The Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church will try to help this Southwest area as much as possible if these people can establish a camp. This will mean another camp in a growing camp program.

Practically every year the over-all picture of our camps shows an increasing number of people attending our Brethren camps. This has been because our Sunday Schools and churches are experiencing real benefits from those who have attended camp and many Sunday Schools and churches are helping every camper in a financial way. Many former campers have responsible jobs in our Sunday Schools and churches and Daily Vacation Bible Schools.

MORE WEEKS OF CAMP

The increase in camp registration has caused a need for more camp time. We can recall in the Pennsylvania camp of many years in the past that one week of camp adequately took care of our needs. However, that is not the case today. The Ohio camp has grown so much that they have a full camp every two weeks they operate. Certainly in the light of the increased enrollments in the Southeastern District, they could very well use two weeks of camp. This, we believe, would make for a better camp situation. Of course, more weeks of camp require more workers or more time spent in camp by less. The Indiana District has added another week of camp to their four which they have had for many years. This is very encouraging and speaks well for the camp program.

Perhaps the camps in the Central and Mid-West Districts would see an increase in campers, if they could separate their campers into two groups.

If our camping program continues to grow, perhaps we will see the day when some of our districts will have camp going on all summer, as is the case in some other church groups.

A STRONGER LIFE-WORK RECRUIT PROGRAM

Every year most of our camps report campers who have dedicated their lives in full time service. But, I think we have fallen down in keeping in contact with these people. Perhaps our local churches should follow this up more closely and aid in encouraging and directing life work recruits.

Since many have dedicated their lives to full time service, we often ask the question "How long will it last?" Everything depends upon where you place the emphasis in this matter. Inevitably, if you are just satisfied in what you have done and do nothing about it—you are going to be disappointed. Any business man knows that when he comes to the place where he is only holding on to the clients he has and not getting any new business, he's through. So it is in the Christian life. Peter says, "As new born babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word,

(Continued on Page 8)

Another Field Representative ?

Henry Bates is pastor of the First Brethren Church, North Manchester, Indiana, and writer of "Lesson Backgrounds" for the "Brethren Bible Class Quarterly."

Henry G. Bates

"'TIS BETTER to have loved and lost, than never to have loved." So goes the old adage. We of the Brethren Church might paraphrase that statement somewhat and say, "'Tis better to have had a Field Representative and lost him, than never to have had one."

It was with a great deal of regret that the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church accepted the resignation of Dr. Joseph Shultz as its field representative for we knew that he had been doing a wonderful piece of work throughout the Brotherhood, and we knew—both from comments which we heard from folks in many churches, as well as by the fine increase in White Gift Offerings—that the work of the Sunday School Board in keeping Brother Shultz on the field was greatly appreciated by the members of the Brethren Church. But we must not "cry over spilt milk." Dr. Shultz felt led to accept the pastorate of the Washington, D. C. Brethren Church, and the Board received his resignation with regret and with a vote of appreciation for his loyalty and devotion to the work.

Now folks are asking whether or not the Sunday School Board is contemplating calling another full-time Field Secretary or Field Representative. Let us turn the question back to you—the members of the Brethren Church —the people whom the Sunday School Board strives to serve. Do YOU want another Field Representative? Do YOU feel the need for such a man in the Brethren Church? Is the work of the Sunday School Board important enough to warrant calling a young man (or woman) to assume this position? Before answering these questions may we suggest that you read the next few paragraphs in which some of the ideas of the Sunday School Board are projected.

During the past two years the work of the Field Representative was limited almost entirely to that of visiting the various churches and conducting in those churches Sunday School workshops. Judging from the comments which we have heard from folks from a number of churches, this program was very warmly received—and many Sunday Schools immediately began putting into practice some of the suggestions which Brother Shultz made. The Sunday School Board recognizes the importance of continuing this type of program—but the Board also has visions of enlarging the program and of extending the areas in which the Field Representative could work. A number of churches, for instance, have expressed a keen interest in having a leadership training class in the churches—conducted by somebody who is qualified to carry on this type of a class—qualified both educationally and spiritually. In some areas this could be worked out with several nearby Brethren churches thus making it a cooperative effort and also conserving the time of the teacher. The Sunday School Board would be very much interested in having its Field Representative spend a good portion of his time in this type of training.

Over the years the camping program of the Brethren Church has been one of our strongest programs. Many of our pastors, missionaries, church leaders, Sunday School teachers, etc. have heard the call to Christian service in one of the Brethren camps. The Sunday School Board, under whose auspices and with whose financial support, the majority of our camps operate, is always anxious to improve the camping program in any way possible. From time to time it becomes necessary to revise the curricula, to change methods, to try new schedules. A trained Field Representative would be of invaluable help in this particular area. Some steps were made in this direction last year when the former Field Representative and several other members of the Board revised the curricula to some degree—but there is still much to be done.

Also, while on the matter of camping, with the establishment of new Brethren churches in new areas of the

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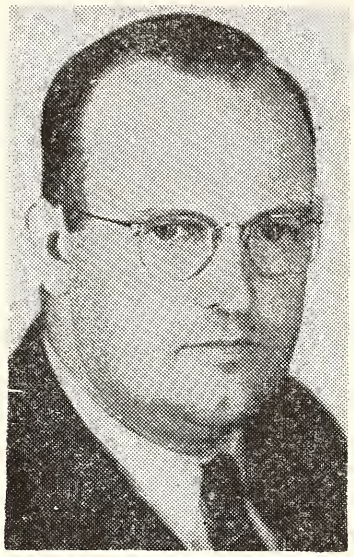


Smith F. Rose is pastor of the Brighton Chapel, Howe, Indiana, and writer of "Lesson Exposition" for the "Brethren Bible Class Quarterly."

Enlarged Program of Promotion

Smith F. Rose

MUCH HAS BEEN DONE already to promote the work of our Brethren Sunday Schools. This has served to show us that so much more can be accomplished. Let us consider four areas:

1. Research in Material and Methods.

"We have done it this way for the last twenty years" is an expression heard too often in Sunday School work. The old method shows it has been very durable, but this doesn't mean it is the most successful. A great danger is that we may become so accustomed to doing certain things in the same way that they become automatic. This means usually that there is very little preparation from week to week. Such a program has very little to offer which will attract and hold members for the Sunday School.

Much is being done by many denominations, as well as by interdenominational groups, seeking the best methods in the Lord's work. We need to do more in the way of advertising the work which is so important to the growth of the Brethren Church. Our two main aims in promotion should be to bring pupils in and then to teach them in such a way as to bring them to Christ. This is of eternal importance, since it deals with precious souls. So we should make every effort to reach as many as we can. To this end we should seek the best materials and methods available which are usable by our leaders and teachers. It is impossible for each individual to have access to all of these. It is here that the Sunday School Board would like to help. When usable materials are located and new methods are discovered, we can pass them on to your Sunday School. We could serve also as a clearing house for new ideas discovered in our own schools.

2. More Brethren Sunday School literature.

Progress is being made in the preparation of lesson material for our Sunday Schools. The Brethren Publishing Company sponsored and improved "The Brethren Bible Class Quarterly." Our S. S. Board has been happy to cooperate with them in this enlarged adult quarterly, which has received such a fine response. The Brethren Publishing Company provides "The Bible Lessons for Brethren Youth" quarterly which has now been departmentalized, so that it is able to meet the needs of both Young People and Intermediates. We are still greatly in need of materials from Nursery through Junior age. At best many of the materials we are able to get elsewhere are inadequate. While they are fine in many respects, there are often things which are contrary to the teachings and practices of our church. Your S. S. Board feels that definite progress can be made in this area, as they work with The Brethren Publishing Company in developing a complete Brethren Literature.

3. Lending Library on Sunday School and camp work.

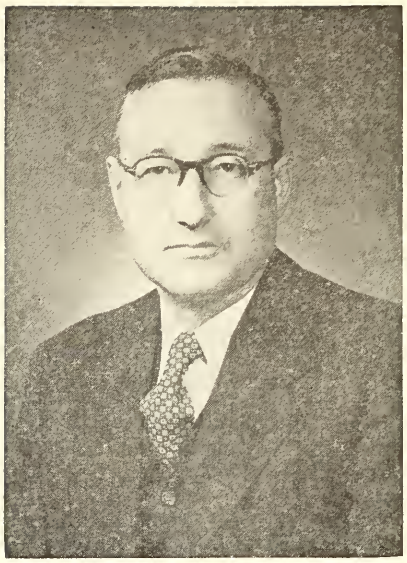
There are new books coming out continually in relation to Sunday School work. The average Sunday School finds it impossible to purchase them all and, even if they could, would not be certain they met the local need. If we could provide such a library, it would give our leaders and teachers the chance to read new books on Sunday School work and then purchase them, if they met the need. This would make more information available to the teachers and leaders who are working hard to improve their effectiveness.

Each year our volunteer teachers in Brethren young people's camps must make up materials for their classes. Seldom do they have the information readily in hand. Dr. Joseph Shultz was largely instrumental in setting up our new series of camp courses, which we believe are far superior to what has been used in the past. These courses must be well prepared to make them effective. A

(Continued on Page 10)

This Project is Important, Too

Delbert B. Flora



Delbert B. Flora is Dean of Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio, and Education Director for the Sunday School Board.

WHAT PROJECT?

Why, that of regular support of our College and Seminary by the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church!

Many years ago (before I became a member of the Board) the Sunday School Board began the practice of making an annual appropriation of $2,250.00 for training young people in Christian Education in our College and Seminary. During the twelve or fourteen years of my Board incumbency the total has become quite substantial, as you can see.

Each year the project is renewed in the Board sessions, and the item is placed in the budget for the next fiscal year. Each year the Brethren Church is reminded of this budget item in connection with the appeal for the White Gift offering.

This is an important item in the budget, because the project is important.

The project is important because it assists in providing the Brethren Church and the church of our Lord with:

1. Trained ministers and missionaries.
2. Trained Sunday School superintendents and teachers.
3. Trained youth leaders and education directors.
4. Trained lay leaders.

Your dollars are votes!

Surely you will vote in favor of continuing this project annually.

1956-57 Budget, $8825

Is there any doubt as to the need of our denomination for trained ministers? Just look at the search for pastors being carried on this minute by some of our churches. Home mission pastors must be found for new fields which are opening up. The Great Commission of our Lord will lead us to ask for more missionaries for the world, too.

Trained workers for the Brethren Church are a necessity, if we are to do the work which we think the Lord would have us do. In the days of His flesh He trained His workers, too. He did not send them out for work until they were ready. His system of preparing them was very efficient and effective. He first called men to Him who would dedicate themselves to Him. Then He instructed them, gave them practical experience under His supervision, sent them out on special deputations, and gave them refresher courses after His resurrection.

How dare we get the idea that His work may be done today by trial and error? Let us as a denomination give hearty support to every method of properly training our Sunday School superintendents, teachers, youth leaders, education directors, and every kind of lay leaders.

Let us mark our ballots by means of giving our dollars!

Let us make our dollars powerful by **sending our prayers** with them!

Let us provide the material for our needs by **consecrating our youth** to become great leaders.

Recently the offices of the Sunday School Board and the Seminary ran a little survey among the Brethren students who are in the College and Seminary this year. An attempt was made to learn what had been the activity in, and the relation to, the various phases of Brethren youth work in their years before coming to college. Between 70 and 75 questionaires were sent out, of which

number 50 were returned. This is the picture which came to light:

1. Of course, all had attended Sunday School quite regularly.
2. 21 had served regularly as Sunday School teachers.
3. 20 had held other Sunday School offices.
4. 46 had worked in Christian Endeavor or Brethren Youth.
5. 39 had held offices in C. E, or B. Y.
6. 35 had been active in Sisterhood or Brotherhood.
7. 29 had held offices in Sisterhood or Brotherhood.
8. 42 had attended Brethren summer camps.
9. 22 had served as staff members in camps.
10. 32 had held other offices in the Brethren Church.

It is also interesting to note that of the 50 who made reports, 17 are in the Seminary preparing for work as ministers and missionaries, and 15 are classed as pre-seminary students. Among the other 18 are those who expect to become teachers, nurses, ministers wives, and Christian business men and professional people who will be at work in our churches as leaders in a few years.

The Sunday School Board is especially interested in items 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9. It is the work of that Board to assist Brethren Sunday Schools to improve their efficiency and standards. The summer camp has been a special project of the Board for many years. Now we can see by the survey that this work is most vital in supplying the material for workers and leaders in the Brethren Church.

And it goes without saying that we shall cast our ballots properly marked in favor of supporting our Brethren institution of training.

There is a story that long ago in a certain land of the far East the king was greatly loved by all his people. The custom arose of celebrating the king's birthday by each person bringing to him and laying at his feet a special gift. People came from all over the kingdom to do homage to their beloved ruler. They assembled in a great public concourse dressed in their best in his honor. Each one went to the throne to present his gift. Every gift was white.

Some of the people presented beautiful white gems, some shimmering white silks, while others could give out of their poverty only a handful of white rice. But the great king accepted the handful of rice given out of lack, but with love, with just as much appreciation as he did the costliest gifts.

The annual offering for the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church has been designated for many years as the White Gift Offering. Let us dedicate it to our Great King with love and fervor, and with prayer.

A GREATER CAMP PROGRAM

(Continued from Page 4)

that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2). And "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." Paul remarked to the Thessalonians that "your faith groweth exceedingly." He also besought them to "increase more and more."

Put the emphasis where it belongs. Don't try to just "Hold on." Go on with Christ in the Word growing each day and experience a life-long process of growth in His grace.

BETTER "FOLLOW UP" FOR CAMPERS

No one would dispute that we need a better "follow up" program for campers. Many people are aware that many of our Brethren ministers in our denomination today made their decision as life-work recruits in camp. It really would be interesting to know the number. On the other hand, it would definitely be sad to bring to mind the dozens, perhaps, who made this decision, but we don't like to say, haven't kept it! Yet they have been, as it were, side-tracked, way-laid or are lacking in the enthusiasm and joy that must ever be kept alive in a life-recruiter.

Our Christian life started at Calvary and all that we are today depends upon our relation to His eternal plan and the mighty current of the purpose of God in our lives. Where are these young people who in the years have made this decision? If contact had been closer, a "follow-up" program more vital, keeping their decision ever before them, who knows—the Christian cause might have gained. We cannot maintain a Christian life of ourselves. God must do it or it isn't done. Perhaps some have failed because a follow-up program has not shown them that of ourselves we can do nothing. But "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

ANOTHER FIELD REPRESENTATIVE?

(Continued from Page 5)

country, the matter of possible new camps in the near future arises. Last summer at its sessions during National Conference, the Sunday School Board voted to help establish a new camp in Arizona—and the possibility of similar requests from other regions is very great. The Sunday School Board's Field Representative would be of valuable assistance in such new camping programs.

These are just a few of the areas in which another Field Representative would work—many other areas would also be touched upon. Now, do you think that the Board should endeavor to find a man or a woman, or begin training a man or a woman for this position? Is the work of such an individual important enough to the Brethren Church to warrant spending the time and the money involved? Your fine support of the White Gift Offering during the two years that Brother Shultz was with the Board would definitely indicate that the Brethren Church DOES feel the need for such a worker. Your increasing support of the White Gift Offering this year will show the Board that you are anxious to have another Field Representative, and also that you are anxious to do your bit to help expand the areas in which this Field Representative will work.

Shall we have another Field Representative? How will you vote?

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR BRETHREN SUNDAY SCHOOLS

(This standard is to be used until a revision is published.)

	Possible Score	Your Score
I. HOME EXTENSION		
1. An Active Cradle Roll	5	_____
2. A Working Home Department	5	_____
II. ORGANIZED CLASSES		
1. One or more organized classes in Young People's Division	5	_____
2. One or more organized classes in Adult Division	5	_____
III. LEADERSHIP TRAINING		
1. A training class registered with the Sunday School Board of the Brethren church and using any approved text	7	_____
2. Twenty-five per cent of the teachers graduates in some approved course	3	_____
IV. GRADATION		
1. Graded school organization with annual promotion	5	_____
2. Graded lesson instruction in all children's departments	5	_____
V. MISSIONS		
1. Systematic missionary instruction	5	_____
2. An annual White Gift Offering	5	_____
VI. CITIZENSHIP		
1. Systematic citizenship instruction	5	_____
2. Participation in some form of benevolence	5	_____
VII. DECISIONS		
1. Decision Day observed annually	5	_____
2. Life work decisions emphasized regularly	5	_____
VIII. CONFERENCES		
1. Workers' conference held regularly; ten recommended; six required	7	_____
2. Delegates to some convention, denominational and/or interdenominational	3	_____
IX. DENOMINATIONAL		
1. Records accurately kept and statistics sent promptly to the national office	5	_____
2. Use of Brethren publications	5	_____
X. LIBRARY		
1. At least five new books for each department in Sunday School	10	_____
Total Possible Score	100	
Your Total Score	—	_____

ENLARGED PROGRAM OF PROMOTION

(Continued from Page 6)

lending library of books on the courses and on camp work would be a great aid to camp workers. This is especially important, because the books on camp work are not very numerous and are difficult to secure due to the fact that the church camp is still a comparatively new field in church work.

4. **Expanded visual aid service.**

Since we realize that students remember most of what they see, we are compelled to consider expansion in the work of visual aids. There are two kinds: projected and non-projected. A fair-sized filmstrip library is already in use and many of our pastors and teachers avail themselves of these Bible-teaching and teacher-training strips. Many new releases continue to appear. These should be made available through purchase by the S. S. Board. There is an area of opportunity in the use of the non-projected aids where information could be made available to our teachers. This will take research. These materials should then be put in a form so they would be available to our local Sunday Schools. The local teacher may do much along this line, but a sharing of these ideas would be most helpful.

It is easy to see that in these areas and in many others not mentioned there is much which could be done by our Sunday School Board to aid local Sunday Schools. Your gift this year will help us to move further into these important fields which would promote and improve the effectiveness of our Sunday Schools.

THE OHIO DISTRICT, through its Sunday School Board and Camp Site Committee, is considering buying the farm pictured above for use in the future as a camp site. The Ohio Camp is one of the six District camps that receive financial help from the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church.

Support the White Gift Offering this month

Your Gifts will be a Wise Investment

Your Sunday School Board dollars at work.

TOTAL BUDGET——$8825

SUMMER CAMPS

——$3600

ASHLAND COLLEGE AND SEMINARY

——$2250

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION

——$2600

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY

——$ 375

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

WHITE GIFT OFFERING

Make checks payable to Henry Bates, Treasurer of the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church, and address to Rev. Henry Bates, 404 N. Wayne St., North Manchester, Indiana.

THE *Pied Piper's* TUNE

THERE IS AN OLD STORY of the Pied Piper of Hamlin, who out of revenge on a town of snobs, played a tune so enchanting that all the village children followed him into a hole in the mountain and were never seen again. Obviously the tune was so interesting and likeable that they frolicked along unaware of the danger. And all the time the heart of the mad Pied Piper was filled with mocking laughter as his nimble fingers piped away their web of enchantment.

I have often wondered what could have been so potent in the tune that the youth were so oblivious of their own destruction. It always seemed as if the whole story fell through because no one would be so stupid as to laugh and play to merry melodies while the noose curled around their neck. But I have changed my mind. For I have seen it with my own eyes. I have seen an entire nation like an innocent child, trip lightly along behind a Pied Piper of destruction. I have seen Christians laugh and frolic with this genius of tricky tunes that seem so harmless, but that eventually lead us into caves of personal disintegration.

I am not exaggerating. There exists in our day such a Pied Piper. A genius—a deceiver—a mocker—a costly destructive giant called Beverage Alcohol that swaggers down the road of life dressed in economy quart bottles —handy throw away packs—easily cooled cans and custom styled bottles; his mockery echoing in the hearts of his helpless victims that know him for what he is: his laughing tunes of successful living, taxes for education, and personal moderation causing the rest of us to skip along life's way without looking. This is the Pied Piper that I want to expose to you today.

For a long time I felt that if an individual wanted to drink that was his business—he could do as he liked. I felt that ministers made too much of an issue of this when they had very little scriptural basis. God forgiv me. Above all people the ministers should speak ou against the mad Pied Piper. There is plenty of Biblic Basis to give him that right; over 70 passages dealin specifically with the problem. Over 160 verses on th evils of drunkenness. "There is more said about drunl enness than about blasphemy, stealing, pride, hypocris and adultery." And if there were not this Biblical Basi the minister could speak out against the sin of lettin any habit possess you; the sin of morally harming you body, of physically injuring a God given gift.

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of th Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? Yo are not your own?" I Cor. 6:19. "Wine is a mocke strong drink is a brawler, and whosoever is led astra by it is not wise."

Those who pump the life blood into the Pied Piper veins want us to leave the subject alone. Big busines Brewer's Association, syndicates, racketeers, and men ar women who enjoy the game they play with destructio all these say the church has no right to speak out on th issue. But today we shall. Today I want to show you th Pied Piper for what he is.

Here's a tune he sings. "Beer belongs—enjoy it." Ar this is accompanied by pictures of families on picnic happy families with pleasant smiling faces filled wi good will and love for the children that romp and pla faces that tell us that all of this is a part of the goo life. It is accompanied by catchy little tunes that infor us:

> Nothing's too good for good company
> Where there's life, there's Bud
> It makes good food even better

And we swallow all of these without a bat of an ey

But what is in the tune that we don't see? "In Nass County of New York a survey was made of 29,000 Hi School students. Ninety per cent of all these studen drank on occasion—seventy five per cent began at hor under the eye and with the blessing of their parents This is the way the good life begins? Take a good lo sometime at the way parents who have had a couple beers deal with their children. It calls the pictures th appear in magazines a fat lie.

Beer belongs, because it's the drink of moderati O, how the Pied Piper wants us to believe this. How l

by Rev. Earle Fike, Jr.

A sermon preached at Youth Night service during Pennsylvania District Conference, July 18, 1956, in the Main Street Brethren Church, Meyersdale, Pennsylvania, by the Rev. Earle Fike, Jr., pastor of the Meyersdale Church of the Brethren.

frenzied fingers work to assure us that beer is not so bad as whiskey.

But look once. On the average, beer contains four per per cent alcohol. "Therefore there is as much alcohol in an average glass of beer as in an average glass of distilled liquor." The drink of moderation? Try to believe that sometime

1. When your child is run over by a man enjoying the good things of life—a man whose foot was just two seconds too slow on the pedal. Let him tell you "I wasn't drunk . . . I just had a few beers." Then see if you think it's a good thing of life—a drink of moderation.
2. Let your husband stop a bullet that was meant for a deer, and then let some hunter, enjoying one of the good things of life tell you he wasn't drunk . . . just had a couple bottles of beer.
3. Or let your family be returning from a happy outing only to be met on the wrong side of the road by another family that felt that beer belonged . . . Let someone, of your loved ones, perish because another had become inhuman through alcohol . . . see if you think where there's life there's Bud.

Moderation? there is no moderation where there is four per cent alcohol. Even a little alcohol takes its cut. It slows reaction time, warps our emotions, and turns our conscience modestly. These are the things that make us human. Even a little alcohol makes us more like a beast . . . less like God.

Beer belongs—perhaps in the sewer, but not in the stomachs of human beings. The happiness connected with it is short lived. The good things it promises are never seen.

There's another tune. And how good Christians shout this aloud. Beer and liquor are like anything else. It's not the use but the misuse. You sin only if you drink to excess.

I agree with John Middlekauff. "Moderation in drinking is like moderation in adultery. It doesn't exist." How do you define moderation? How can you be temperate with something whose very nature makes you incapable of deciding how far to go?

How can you be sure you can control it? We have been trying to use moderation as the basis for dealing with the problem for thousands of years. And here we are today with "60 per cent of the adult population drinking, most of them before the age of 20. We have 7 million problem drinkers, 5 million alcoholics, 705,000 of whom are women. We have a national average of 4,390 alcoholics for every 100,000 population."

Alcoholism is the nation's number two health problem. It is 3.2 times as prevalent as tuberculosis, 5.5 times as prevalent as cancer, over 100 times as prevalent as polio." Yet we have no special funds to cure it, no Easter Seal, no March of Dimes. Only continued advertisement by a mad Pied Piper that leads us on in our deadly game.

And what good are cures, when for every alcoholic cured, there will be ten new ones to take his place?

Moderation has led us to spend 9 billion dollars for our national liquor bill, while spending half that much for

education. It has made us kill and injure each year as many people by drunken driving as we had casualties in all of the World War II.

Ah, but you say, I am not one of these. What would be the harm to take the first drink, or I drink occasionally, but I know when to stop. I know how to drink moderately. So did 7 million other people. So did 14 per cent of all the people admitted to our mental institutions. So did every other alcoholic who ever began to drink.

Moderation and control. There is no such thing. If you believe that you can control this thing, you are playing with what may well be your own destruction. Because alcoholism is self induced. As your drinking tempo increases your body begins to build up a tolerance for alcohol.

Listen all of you who shout for moderation and temperate drinking. You may be the next person to lose your business . . . You may be the next parent that places a child on the road to hell in the throes of alcoholism. You may be the next person to wake up from a black out, you may try to sign your name some day and find that you have a good case of the shakes. To begin to drink temperately starts you down to the jumping off place. There is no other direction to go.

Moderation? It's a laugh. A diabolical fiendish laugh that is piped for weakling's consumption by a maniac pied piper who works for a few warped individuals and the King of Evil. Looking for moderation in alcohol is like looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. It's a delusion.

Another tune. You know it I'm sure. Men of distinction indulge. Men who are successful, happy, and rich find this as a luxury that completes the enjoyment of life. And we see well groomed men and nifty women with upraised glasses to prove the point.

But what would happen, if as in all other advertising the Pied Piper would show you the before and after? With shampoo, they show the hair before and after. With lava soap they show before and after. With teeth they show the yellow here and then gone. With shaving they show the whiskers long then short. But with the

Pied Piper you only hear the beginning of the tune. They never show what happens after the drinking takes place.

You don't see the disheveled appearance
the shameless conduct
the disgusting actions
You don't see the aching heads
the snapping tempers
You don't see Skid Row
Or the pathetic people whose face muscles twitch
whose hands shake
whose bodies are emaciated
whose eyes are glassy
You don't see the pathetic pleading of those enslaved and who would to God that someone would help them but don't want help because they cannot do without the stuff.

The Pied Piper's henchmen, the liquor industry, would like for you to believe that there is more success than failure in beverage alcohol. When Ray Milland made his picture, "The Lost Weekend" the house of seagran applauded it as the achievement of the year. They said, "Paramount has succeeded in burning into the hearts and minds of all who see this vivid screen story our own long held and published conviction that some men should not drink." O what a master-piece this tune is. Listen to the rest of it. "Again and again we have expressed our abiding conviction . . . conviction that liquor is a luxury; that it should always be used reasonably, and "with restraint as a welcome addition to gracious living. For, as in the case with other good things of life, the charm lies not in use, but abuse. That is why we are so deeply impressed to have our heart-felt sentiments come to flaming life upon the screen . . . "

Recently there has been another great motion picture that presents a true picture of what happens to an individual of distinction. The story of Lillian Ross entitled "I'll Cry Tomorrow." I'm sure that the Pied Piper would also say of this personal tragedy . . . "some women should not drink."

The tunes of this maniac Beverage Alcohol continue and increase each day. And we like fools trip lightly along with the Pied Piper of destruction. It's time we realize how close to the hole in the mountain we are coming.

No more can we excuse a beer by pointing a finger at the person who likes his coffee. The results are not the same.

No more can we be duped into thinking that moderation is possible. You may think you're strong enough, so did 7 million others, who are now a disgrace to our society.

No more can we say it's a personal matter . . . it ceases to be personal when it may mean the life of one of your family.

No more can we laugh and say it's none of the church's business. The Bible is full of the evils involved.

No more can we excuse our drinking because a great many other people do it. That's as foolish as saying I want Cancer because many others suffer from it.

No more can we say it's a source of good revenue for the state. Massachusetts collected 13 million in revenue from liquor while the tangible cost of damage from liquor made them spend 61 million. A loss of 48 million in cash.

My Christian friends, look on these tunes for what they are. The truth about these deceiving lyrics and merry melodies is, they are lies and we are being duped, mocked by rich supporters of the industry, eagerly applauded by Satan in his Regions of Hell.

I don't like being duped. I don't like the children in our church to learn to sing "Schmitz is beer as beer should be" before they learn the verses of "Jesus Loves Me." I don't like the youth to believe that to drain a beer can is the best way to make friends and be sociable. I don't like them to feel that to drink is a sign of maturity. I want the Christians in our church to know the dynamite that is in the tricky tunes of this mad Pied Piper. From here on out, as a minister, as a Christian, and as a human being, I intend to make public, private, and continuous warfare against this great evil. I hope you will be fired with righteous indignation to such an extent that carrying the sword of common sense and wearing the armor of your Christian Faith, you too will join the battle.

O God, help us to reach out hands of understanding and love to those who are bound in the chains of this habit . . . while at the same time we make ceaseless war against the evil that enslaves them. Amen.

AGED IN THE WOOD

A READING Church is an INFORMED Church.

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NEWS BRIEFS FROM NIGERIA

(Part of a letter to the Berkshires from Doc Shank)

Waka, Nigeria
September 29, 1956

Dear Berkshires:

We feel honored indeed, receiving two letters of congratulations from you all. Let me say that we appreciated and enjoyed them very much. Thanks a lot for taking the time to write.

This is another beautiful morning here in Nigeria. It is sunny, but cool. The rainy season is coming to a close —still will have plenty no doubt. Thus far the season hasn't been very rainy. As you know, it started late; in addition, the rains have been very infrequent. We've had only one big rain which came two weeks ago on a Sunday evening during church service. Did it rain, and how!

When it came against the tin roof, we couldn't hear a thing. We sang several songs, but instead of trying to compete with the sound, the speaker pronounced the benediction, and one by one the audience braved the storm. We had a birthday party for Miss Harper at Shanksters' house (where Oswalts lived) so the staff didn't have very far to go. None of us realized the extent of the rain until we started home. The whole place was flooded—we couldn't cross the drift with motor and could barely get across the foot bridges. More fun!

Our garden has produced wonderfully well—oodles of beans (green, limas and dried) tomatoes; carrots; beets; corn; radishes; cabbage; head lettuce and cucumbers (we tried to pickle some, but weren't successful; we'll try another season). We've canned quite a lot of stuff which will make our food bill a lot less. Maybe you all ought to come to Nigeria and raise a garden.

This term of school is eight weeks old, with nine to go. Since the Hesses have gone home, those of us teaching at T. T. have additional subjects to teach. We're hoping that by the time another term begins we'll have more staff.

I've written most of this letter with Donna on my lap. Since Jean teaches on Saturday, I try to help with the family a little more on that day. Jean is teaching regularly now and is quite busy. Donna is growing—a very nice baby. Yes, she looks somewhat like her Dad. Dennis is also growing and is talking a great deal. The family is well.

Our first year in Nigeria has been a good one, and we are looking forward to the same for the second year. Thanks again for writing.

Sincerely,

The Shanks.

EACH IN HIS OWN TONGUE

Irven Stern

SOME MONTHS before coming to Nigeria I sat among a group of 125 young would-be missionaries. We were strongly counseled that the most important thing for the new missionary to do was to **learn the language.** The second most important thing was **learn the language.** And the third most important job was that of **learning the language.**

Now it would seem that the task of learning a new language could hardly be as important as preaching the love of God and the redemptive power of Christ to a group of Nigerians. And perhaps it is not. But what good does it do to preach to people who cannot understand what you say? How can we speak about Jesus Christ to people who do not understand our language? The answers are quite simple. The new missionary just must learn to speak the tongue of the people he plans to work among.

And he must truly learn it well. All of us know what a strain it is to listen to a visiting professor from Germany or France or Italy whose English just does not quite measure up to what we are used to hearing. Many of us finally give up and our minds begin to wander or our heads begin to tilt forward while our eyelids close. Think how it must seem to the Nigerian who tries to listen to a missionary faltering and stumbling around in Margi or Bura.

So it is that the first job of the new missionary is that of learning well the language of the people he will work among. This task requires a great desire, an immense amount of stick-to-itiveness, patience, and perhaps some innate ability along these lines.

Preparation

Many times as I sit struggling with the Margi language or wish I could make myself understood to certain people around me, I think of my seminary classmates. What are they most likely doing in their chosen task of being pastors? They are preaching perhaps two or three times a week, counseling with their parishioners, visiting the sick, making pastoral calls, doing administrative work, writing letters, etc.

Then I realize that the work of a minister at home and that of a minister on the foreign field are much alike in many respects. But the new missionary just has not finished his period of training and preparation until he has learned to speak and be understood in the language of the people.

(To be continued)

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

THE NAME THAT SAVES

(Matthew 1:21)

The Lord hath many names
  Of majesty and might,
Of wisdom and of strength,
  Of holiness and light;
But Jesus is the sum—
  This is the crowning name,
Compact of love and grief,
  Of glory and of shame.

The cross is hidden here,
  And in its compass set
Lie sad Gethsemane,
  Bethlehem, Olivet,
Nazareth's humble home,
  And Galilee's blue waves;
His earthly life is bound
  Within the name that saves.

Name that a child may love
  Where grace and sweetness blend
Yet Whose deep mysteries
  No man may comprehend;
King—crowned with many crowns,
  Christ—set on Zion's hill,
Lord God omnipotent—
  His name is Jesus still.

"UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN" speaks of our Saviour's humanity. "Unto us a Son is given" speaks of His deity (Isaiah 9:6). He is God manifest in the flesh (2 Cor. 5:19). When we think of His Person and work our hearts should give way to pure praise (Psalm 34:3). His name means "salvation" (Matt. 1:21). There is salvation in no other name (Acts 4:12). He is the only Way that leads to God (John 14:6). He is able to bring to God every soul who will receive Him as personal Saviour (Heb. 7:25). Isaiah said, "His name shall be called Wonderful."

Isaiah would have Him to be our "Counsellor." Only His counsel shall stand (Psalm 33:10). To follow His counsel is to be blest (Psalm 1:1). The wicked took counsel together against our Lord (Matt. 27:1). But they came to derision and vexation (Psalm 2:1-5). Such is the end of those who refuse the advice of Heaven (Prov. 1:25-30). Let us accept God's Word and be blest (Psalm 73:24; 119:24).

Jesus is called "the Mighty God." He is the "true God" (I John 5:20), Who alone can give eternal life. He is God of very God (Col. 2:9). He is worthy of our worship (John 20:28). Peter was not deceived after a most thorough investigation (2 Peter 1:16). He proved that He was "the Lord mighty in battle" in the resurrection (Psalm 24:8-10). The record is an aid to ou faith (1 Peter 1:8).

Again, He is called "the Everlasting Father." Cer tainly He is co-equal, co-essential, co-existent and co eternal with God, "the Ancient of days" (Dan. 7:9, 13 22). He is the Author, Founder, and Father of our faitl (Heb. 12:2).

He is "the Prince of Peace," "He is our Peace" (Eph 2:14). Without Him there is no peace (Isaiah 57:20, 21) Peace is made possible for us through His blood (Col 1:20). Through Him we have peace with God (Rom. 5:1) Then we Christians are also to have the "peace of God (Phil. 4:6, 7). We are to "Let the peace of God rule" i our hearts (Col. 3:15). Love for God's Word will giv us that peace which will keep us from being "upset (Psalm 119:165; Isaiah 26:3). We who have peace WITI God and the peace OF God have a great responsibilit (Rom. 12:18; 14:19; 1 Thess. 5:13; Mark 9:50; Matt 5:9; 2 Tim. 2:22). The world's unrest is due to its con tinued rejection of Christ (Luke 1:32, 33).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for December 9, 1956

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

Lesson: Romans 8:26-28, 31-39

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE is to be a life of victory There is no place in the plan of God for defea Jesus Christ has conquered sin, death, the grave, an Satan. For God "hast put all things in subjection unde His (Christ's) feet" (Heb. 2:8). Not only has Jesu Christ triumphed over all, but He gives victory unt His own. "Who is he that overcometh the world, but h that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (I Joh 5:5).

To be more than conqueror requires, first of all, tha a man be in Christ Jesus. That is, in union with Go through identification with the Lord Jesus Christ. I Romans 8 Paul is speaking to those who have been:

1. Justified by faith in Christ—ch. 5;
2. Freed from fleshly desires—ch. 6;
3. And who walk after the Spirit, being led by th Spirit—ch. 8.

The genuine Christian will have the witness of th Spirit (8:16). He realizes that Sonship incurs suffe ing for the sake of Christ (8:17-18). For the body i which the Spirit dwells is mortal, and is awaiting th final day of redemption (8:23).

Realizing the human frailties of man, God has pron ised spiritual strength. "The Spirit also helpeth our i firmities." When we would pray He prays for us ar in us "according to the will of God."

Ever before the Christian who abides in the love God is the knowledge and assurance that "all thin

work together for good to them that love God, To them who are the called according to His purpose." This precious verse must be interpreted in the light of its context. God does not promise indiscriminately to work together all things for all people for good. The promise is made to those who abide in the center of God's will.

Dare any man condemn the man who has been justified by God? If God puts His seal of divine approval upon those whom He has chosen, dare man question God's choice? "If God be for us, who can be against us?" No one!

When God pardons and transforms a sinner into a Saint of God, that man stands before God justified. He is destined for glorification. Is there then any one who shall separate that man from God? "Who shall seperate us from the love of Christ?" asks the Apostle Paul.

God is greater than all. Greater than tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, and sword. Let come what may, God will see us through! Thank God for this assurance! "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

REMEMBER: There is no security in SIN. But there is security in CHRIST!

"Lord God of Heaven and Earth, hear us as we pray to Thee. Grant unto Thy Children the assurance of Thy love and goodness. Create within us a hunger for that which is spiritual. May we ever be kept in the center of Thy most Holy Will. Help us to experience the reality of Thy presence, and the blessed assurance that because we are in union with Thee nothing shall ever separate us from Thy love and care. Amen."

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

LESSON HELPS

"WHERE CAN I GET more material on the Sunday school lesson?" This is a frequently asked question—and a most important one too. Many Sunday school teachers are mediocre when, with proper lesson helps and resource materials, they could be excellent instructors. What, then, are some good lesson helps?

First, the Sunday school teacher should have a Bible with sharp, clear print. There are several good reference Bibles on the market; the two best are Scofield's and Thompson's. Then should come one of the Brethren Sunday school quarterlies. (Of course, if you teach in the children's department you will use the quarterly provided for your own Sunday school.)

Second, the teacher should have a reliable commentary on the Sunday school lessons. We recommend the **Standard Lesson Commentary** for use in Brethren Sunday schools. This volume provides eight large pages of well-written helps for every lesson of the year. It is down-to-earth, practical, easy to understand, and costs only $2.95. (It may also be obtained in a quarterly form at $2.00.)

Third, a concordance is necessary for effective Bible study. A concordance groups under one heading all the Bible references in which a particular word is found. For many years **Cruden's Concordance** has been the favorite with Sunday school teachers. It is easy to use and not too expensive ($3.50).

Fourth, a Bible dictionary is handy in answering all kinds of questions. You use a Bible dictionary just as you use any other dictionary. Several fine volumes of this type are on the market. The most up to date ones are **Dictionary of the Bible** by Davis ($5.95); **Westminster Dictionary of the Bible** ($5.00;) and **Harper's Bible Dictionary** ($7.95). Another good one is **Peloubet's Bible Dictionary** ($3.50).

Fifth, the Sunday school teacher should have a one-volume Bible Commentary. **The New Bible Commentary** ($7.95) is considered by many to be the finest dependable one-volume commentary available. It is very recent and contains 1200 pages of two columns each. Dummelow's **Commentary on the Holy Bible** ($5.00) is also used by many Sunday school teachers.

Sixth is a Bible atlas. The history and geography of Bible lands is so extensive that it needs to be in a book by itself. The best atlas we have is **The Westminster Historical Atlas of the Bible** ($7.50). A revised edition of this book appeared just this fall. It contains many large maps and an excellent summary of ancient history.

Seventh, the Sunday school teacher should have a Bible handbook giving information on how we got our Bible, archeological discoveries, church history, etc. Without a doubt the best book in this category is **Halley's Bible Handbook.** It is now in its twentieth edition and contains nearly 1000 pages, yet it sells for only $3.00. This book is almost indispensable; every teacher should have it.

If you want to become a good teacher and know your Bible, these books will aid you. Help yourself to the treasures that await you in Sunday school lesson study. Of course, you can't buy all these books at once; you'll want to build your reference shelf bit by bit. But don't wait any longer; start today by writing to The Brethren Publishing Company and ordering number two and number seven. You'll be glad you did!

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

A FEW WEEKS AGO the bold heading on this page was "HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON." And as you read the announcements of coming events, you could see that much was going on in Brethren Youth in several different locations. It is really thrilling to know that these meetings were such successes and today I take pleasure in commenting briefly on several of them.

MT. OLIVE B. Y. WORKSHOP

About 75 young people and adult advisors from the Southeastern District, and Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, met on November 10th in the Mt. Olive Brethren Church, near McGaheysville, Virginia. After a 20 minute period of singing and devotions, the main part of the afternoon program was the Brethren Youth Workshop.

During this workshop we talked about the organization and operation of Brethren Youth Nationally and on the local level. The national project ($6,666.66), membership cards, Booster Club, local meetings, goals and program materials were all discussed and talked over. The Youth Director was very much encouraged by the interest that was shown and I trust what was done will help to strengthen the Brethren Youth emphasis in those churches which were represented.

A wonderful supper was served by the women of the Mt. Olive church and then the group assembled for the evening program about 6:30. Mary Sue Sullivan (from Waynesboro) led in devotions in the afternoon program and Della Nave and Joyce Stoddard, both from Hagerstown, offered a vocal duet for the evening program. The message of the evening was brought in the form of a film entitled, "A Wonderful Life." The whole thought of this story was that even though a man had used his whole life doing things for other people, it was a joy because it was what he wanted to do for others—regardless of the fact that he was often deprived of doing and having many comforts of living. Such is the way we should use our lives for the glory of Christ.

SOUTHERN INDIANA RALLY

The central point of southern Indiana on November 15th was, logically enough, the Center Chapel Brethren Church. It was there that 100 young people and advisors gathered for their southern Indiana B. Y. rally in the evening. The 45 minute workshop was much like the one described above and I feel that much was accomplished here also. Jim Gable, district president, conducted the business session and the women served good refreshments after the meeting was over. Now, young people, let's get to work putting the various things discussed into operation!

WORDS FROM SMITHVILLE

(Note: The following was taken from "CROSS BEAMS" published by the Smithville Brethren Church, Robert L. Hoffman, Minister, Nov. 3, 1956. Used without permission.)

REPORT ON JR. B. Y. RALLY

There were around one hundred at the Jr. B. Y. C Rally of the North-East Ohio District at our (Smithville church on Saturday (Nov. 3). This group now is full organized on their own and separate from the senio youth group. The various officers and their adult coun ter parts are:

President—June Drushal (Smithville) Helen McConaha
V. Pres.—Tom Creighton (Canton) Miss Dorothy Mille
Secretary—Nancy DeWalt (Louisville) Mary Byler
Ass't. Sec.—Janet Meyer (Ashland) Mrs. Virgil Meyer
Treasurer—Jack Thrum (Fremont) Mrs. Smith
Ass't. Treas.—David Myers (Akron) Royce Gates
District Advisors—Rev. L. V. King; Mary Byler

UP NORTH IN INDIANA

Just three days after the southern Indiana rally, o November 18th, the northern B. Y. held one in Goshe —so they wouldn't be out-done by their southern neigl bors. This rally was also a huge success with 127 yout and advisors present. Another Brethren Youth worksho was held and the district was organized, the results c the election of officers as follows:

President—Bonnie Swihart (Goshen)
V. Pres.—Colleen Steimle (Elkhart)
Secretary—Dorothy Kollor (South Bend)
Advisors—Gordon Jenks (Elkhart) John Porte (Sout Bend) Carrol Meyers (Elkhart)

Congratulations to these officers and we hope you c your job well so that your district may be strong in th work of the Lord through Brethren Youth. After th supper in the church basement, the young people attende the closing service of a two weeks' revival conducted b Rev. William Anderson from Pleasant Hill, Ohio. Ou thanks goes out to Rev. Spencer Gentle and the Goshe Brethren for arranging such a fine rally.

WHAT'S LEFT IS HERE

It was a real pleasure to spend the week of Nov. 4-1 with our Brethren at Waynesboro, Pa., in a week of sp cial meetings. The youth there are interested in organi ing and moving forward.

Nov. 18 was youth Sunday at Nappanee and I thai them for the privilege of bringing the morning messag Youth Director Waldo Gaby is a good leader. Keep u the good work.

By adding the number attending the above rallies a workshops, we find that over 400 Brethren Youth ha been together district-wise in the last month. A co mendable fact for our youth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ONCE SAID...

"I don't know who my grandfather was; I am mu more concerned to know what his grandson will be."

"THE SHORTEST ANSWER IS BY DOING"

—by George Herbert

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

THIS MORNING in Church our Call to Worship was:

"Create in me a clean heart, O God;
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence;
And take not thy holy spirit from me."

I think this would be a good prayer for each of us to pray in the morning as we go about our work, whether it be at home or away from home. How much good a clean heart can do for us in our associations throughout the entire day. If we keep our heart clean, it in turn will keep the mind and tongue from thinking and saying unclean words. Sometimes we think we do not have the talents nor the time we would need to do God's work; but no matter how few our talents, nor how busy we may be, we can always refrain from doing and saying anything which would be a hindrance rather than a help to those about us. Evidently most people have better eyes than ears; for what we do, makes a much greater impression on them than what we say. Confucius once said "The superior man wishes to be slow in his words and earnest in his conduct."

"They're looking at your walk,
Not listening to your talk;
They're judging from your actions every day.
Don't believe you'll deceive
By claiming what you've never known;
They'll accept what they see
And know you to be
They'll judge from your life alone."

We stamp our value on ourselves, and build our character accordingly. And while we are building, perhaps it will help to make a firmer foundation if we lighten the burden for someone, or help them over a rough place with a smile or some gesture of friendliness. Very few things contribute so much to a full life, as a constant realization of the blessings we enjoy, and share with those around us. So make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you; be a friend, but be the right kind of a friend; a friend who will lift up, and help her family and friends to a higher level of Christian living. Gossiping, language unbecoming to a Christian, and boasting have never helped any one; least of all the doing these things. We can best keep from doing these, by saying a kind word for Christ instead.

I would like to close with this little gem which has become a great favorite of mine—

"May every soul that touches mine,
Be it the slightest contact, get therefrom some good,
Some little grace, one kindly thought,
One aspiration yet unfelt, one bit of courage
For the darkening sky, one gleam of faith
To brave the thickening ills of life,
One glimpse of brighter sky beyond the gathering mist,
To make this life worth while
And heaven a surer heritage."

Mrs. Adeline Miller,
Goshen, Ind.

January 18, 19, 20, 1957

Premise: We believe that STEWARDSHIP is so basic to the work and progress of the Church that we want to study its truths together.

We are sure that every minister in the Brethren Church will believe in this simultaneous Conference so much that no congregation will be left out.

Promise: The promise of such a simultaneous Conference is great. We cannot but receive blessing for such a consecrated study on such an important subject.

Purpose: To Study Stewardship over the whole church at the same time.
To Learn Stewardship and its value for life.
To Practice Stewardship by study, learning, and doing.

MATERIALS for the Cross Country Conferences will be sent to you by the National Brethren Ministerial Association. WHILE YOU ARE WAITING FOR THESE MATERIALS, DO THESE THINGS:

1. Appoint a committee to arrange the program for Friday, Saturday and Sunday of January 18, 19, 20, 1957.
2. Set the date on your church calendar.
3. Make regular announcements to your congregation.
4. Plan to exchange pulpits, call on an outside leader, appoint a leader from your church, or do it yourself.
5. Make this Conference a matter of concern in the life of your church.

Brethren Historical Library
Manchester College
N. Manchester, Ind.

YOUR DOLLARS ARE VOTES

Mark your ballot

Yes ☐ **Another Field Representative**

No ☐

* To conduct Sunday school workshops
* To teach leadership training classes
* To advise on camp curricula
* To assist in organizing new camps

Yes ☐ **Enlarged Program of Promotion**

No ☐

* Research in materials and methods
* More Brethren Sunday school literature
* Lending Library on Sunday school and camp work
* Expanded visual aid service

Yes ☐ **Greater Camp Program**

No ☐

* New Camp: Tucson-Phoenix
* More weeks of camp
* Stronger life work recruit program
* Better "follow up" for campers

Yes ☐ **Ashland College and Seminary**

No ☐

* Trained ministers and missionaries
* Trained Sunday school superintendents and teachers
* Trained youth leaders and education directors
* Trained lay leaders

The Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church covets your vote of confidence.

The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

MANCHESTER COLLEGE LIBRARY
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

Boyhood home of C. Upton Grossnickle, Frederick County, Maryland.

Story begins on Page Four. —Photo by Freeman Ankrum.

VOL. LXXVIII December 8, 1956 No. 48

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

OAK HILL, W. VA. Congratulations are in order for Brother and Sister Milton Robinson on the arrival of Georgia Kay Robinson, on October 27th. The baby's weight was 7 lbs., 6 oz.

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. The work of Brother Freeman Ankrum as Church History Departmental Editor of the Evangelist, was featured in the October 17th issue of the Hagerstown (Md.) "Daily Mail." Brother Ankrum was interviewed by a reporter from the "Mail," a paper which goes into some 17,000 homes in the area. Featured in the interview was the subject and contents of Brother Ankrum's current historical article appearing in this issue of the Evangelist. This is just one of the ways in which the work of Brother Ankrum as a Church H torian is being recognized beyond the confines of t Brethren Church.

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND. A Carry-in Fellowsh Dinner, followed by a program, was held at the chur the evening of November 30th.

VINCO, PENNA. Laymen from the Brush Valley Bret ren Church were guests at a recent meeting of the Vin Laymen. Attendance was 36.

BERLIN, PENNA. Brother Ralph E. Mills was t speaker at the Community Thanksgiving Service held November 21st in the Trinity Lutheran Church of Berl

SECOND BRETHREN. JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. note from the Second Brethren bulletin that Pastor Ha old Barnett was the speaker at the District Youth Ra on November 10th at Masontown.

(Continued on Page 6)

Important News Concerning Your Evangelist

THE BRETHREN PUBLICATION BOARD, in regular session last August, adopted some changes relating to **The Brethren Evangelist.**

The following action has been taken with the thought in mind of giving you each week a Church paper which will be more helpful, more useful, and one which will more thoroughly cover the reading needs of the Brethren.

1. After January 1, 1957, **the Brethren Evangelist** will be a 20 page weekly. Four of the pages will be in color. (The physical format will be like the special 20 page issues we have been running occasionally—as last week's paper.)

2. New Departments will be added. In addition to the features we now present, we are adding Evangelism, Stewardship, etc. We also plan to present a digest of significant national and world religious news, as space permits.

3. After January 1, 1957, the subscription price of the Evangelist will be $2.00 per year. This is the first change in price since 1941, when the subscription price was, at that time, actually reduced from $2.00 per year. We think you will agree that your Church paper is about the only item which has not shown price increases since 1941. (Nickel candy bars haven't—but then, the ba are now smaller.)

4. Churches which are 100% **Evangelist** subscribe will benefit under the new subscription price, as t Publication Board has set up a 100% Church rate $1.50 per year per subscriber. This all adds up to t things. 1. If your Church now qualifies under the 10 plan, there will be no change in price for you. Churches which are not at present 100% Churches, c qualify at any time. Procedure for becoming a 10 **Evangelist** church is available from The Editor of Pu lications, Brethren Publishing Co., 524 College A Ashland, Ohio.

Renewals from single subscribers, and group lists (100% Churches) received after January 1, 1957, will $2.00 per year, or will be pro-rated for 9 months, $1.50 is sent. Remember, the subscription price is $2. with the $1.50 rate applicable to 100% Churches, AS A INCENTIVE FOR OUR CHURCHES TO BECOME 10 EVANGELIST SUBSCRIBERS.!

For your $2.00, we will be bringing you a bigger a (what we trust) a better and more serviceable paper ea week. The first issue of the new year (January 5th) w contain more information on what these changes rep sent and what they will mean to you.

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

What Is The True Christmas Spirit?

TWO WEEKS AGO, in our Editor's Pulpit, we expressed grave concern over the terrifc pressure placed upon Christian people to make their Christmas festivities a time of commercial exploitation and Christ-neglected social activities. We cautioned Christian people to guard against those things which would cause us to miss the true meaning of Christmas.

Since it appears that the "Christmas spirit" today is entwined (or enmeshed) with the commercial and the social, to the neglect of the spiritual, and since it appears that we are not considered to be having the "Christmas spirit (so called)" unless we are "going along with the crowd" as outlined two weeks ago, we feel it is time to consider from the Christian viewpoint just what we mean when we talk about the "True Christmas Spirit."

1. When the family ties of parents and children are brought closer together through the love of the Christ Child born in Bethlehem,

2. When mothers and fathers will give more time to the spiritual welfare of themselves and their children,

3. When the welfare of the soul's destiny, for which soul the Son of God who came as a Babe in Bethlehem to die on Calvary's cross, is made paramount in our Christmas thoughts,

——then the true Christmas spirit is operating in our lives.

4. When there is greater love and concern for the spiritual welfare of our neighbors, relatives and friends,

5. When the urgency of getting the Gospel of Christ to the ends of the world becomes the controlling purpose of our lives,

6. When our Church becomes more fully activated in its soul reaching work to the point that the world will know that Christ came at Christmas to become God's sacrifice for their sin,

——then we will have the true Christmas Spirit.

We will know what the angels sang when they caroled, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

The true Christmas Spirit causes us to give gifts to one another, as God gave us His Son. It causes us to sing carols as did the angels. It causes us to say, "Merry Christmas" to one another—but with a far greater note of joy than the earthy; for our Merry Christmas, as Christians, retells again and again, that, "Christ the Savior is born."

"O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him,
Born the king of Angels.
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord."

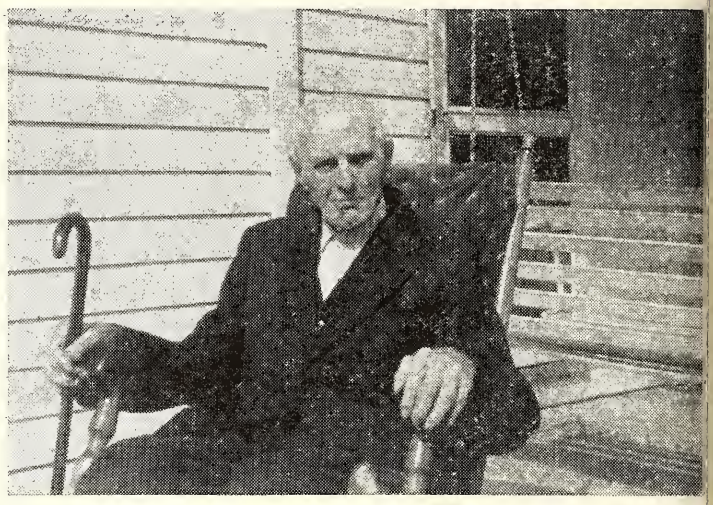
—W. S. B.

Brethren Church History

by **Rev. Freeman Ankrum**

The Dunker Centenarian

C. Upton Grossnickle



—Photo by Freeman Ankrum.

THE PAVED ROAD wound by the meandering voluble Catoctin Creek, in western Frederick County, Maryland, as we traveled along it on the morning of the second day of October, 1956. Accompanied by the Reverend Robert Strickler, Pastor of the Myersville and Grossnickle Dunker churches, we were on our way to visit one whose life span covered more than a century. Fifty-six years following the death of George Washington, fifty-three years following the death and burial of Alexander Mack, Junior, in Germantown, Pennsylvania, and while this part of the States was on the dangerous frontier, this person was born.

After leaving the hard road by the creek we traversed a narrow valley, and up the side of a hill to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Silas Bittle. Here, with his daughter, lived the object of our call. After being introduced to the hostess, and stating our errand, we were told that the subject to be interviewed would be in soon. In a little while, walking in a normal manner aided by his cane, there came in C. Upton Grossnickle. Introductions were again in order and the object of our visit stated. In his younger days, before shouldering the load of years, he stood six feet tall and weighed 190 pounds. The years had given him a stoop and removed considerable of his weight.

In the year 1738, nine years following the coming of Alexander Mack to Pennsylvania, one John Grossnickle, then 21 came to this country from Germany, making the trip on the ship, Nancy. He was followed in 1746 by his brother, Peter Grossnickle. John headed the family of which the subject of our sketch is descended. A descendant, Elias, was married to Nancy Stottlemyer, and to this union were born three children. They were Susa who married John Caleb Leatherman (His biograph was given in **The Brethren Evangelist** in the June 1950, Historical Article, Author), and twins, C. Upt and his sister, Clara.

Upton was born August 16, 1856. The place of h birth was approximately one mile up the Catoctin Cre above the present Grossnickle church. The large sto house stands there upon the bank and is in good prese vation. It is the center of a well farmed landscape.

The Centenarian is the only one of his immedia family living. From time to time, when a boy, he attend school at Middlepoint, but education in those far off da was at the best, fragmentary. Work to keep the stoma filled, a roof over their heads, and clothing to prote them from the elements, took precedence over excessi schooling. Therefore we are not surprised to know th young Upton took enough time off from his farm wo to marry Elizabeth Toms. They had two children, whom the first born survives. She is Mrs. Milton Su mers, the mother of Mrs. Ivan Harshman. Later on told of the courtship of Ella Leatherman, the daught of the Dunker couple, Daniel and Caroline Leatherm After twelve monthly visits, they were married in 18 There were ten children born to this second marria of whom nine are living. One Ellerton Paul Grossnicl resides upon the original Grossnickle homestead whe the subject of this sketch was born. Mr. Upton Gro nickle remarked to the Author, that all of them work hard and that he had plenty of children to care for h in his old age. In this connection we may state that has 43 grandchildren, 56 great grand children, a

seven great-great grand children. In fact he estimates that he has 500 living descendants or relatives close and distant, far and near right now. At a reunion celebrating his reaching the three figured age a picture of five generations was taken.

He stated to the writer that the first Grossnickle church was built in the year 1845. When he was twenty years of age he united with this pioneer Dunker church. Upon a statement to the effect that he had been a Deacon in the church, he replied, "I am a Deacon yet. When a Deacon was elected in the church it was for life."

The election to the office of Deacon took place when he was 23 years of age, therefore he has been a Deacon for the long period of 77 years. He is a faithful attendant of the church of his fathers and has been all of his long life. It is his pleasure to see many of the Grossnickle clan also active members.

His vocation was that of a farmer with side lines such as Banking and Cooperatives. In his sixties he lost a sizable fortune in a bank. His misfortune never affected his deep and religious philosophy of life. In fact he did not mention this loss to the Author. The information was secured from other sources. At an age when most are ready to retire he maintained his attitude of no worry and lots of work, under God's guidance to recoup his fortune. In this he was successful. Little if any mention was made of the material, but to the higher and nobler qualities of life as represented by his church activities.

The Grossnickle congregation is said to be the second oldest in the state of Maryland. Long before the building of the first church structure they worshipped in barns, and in homes. In fact there stands just above the present church the Harshman barn which was used for religious purposes long before the Revolutionary War. It was in 1899 that the present Grossnickle church was built upon a part of the Grossnickle tract. He told the writer that he was a member of the Building Committee. They visited the Welty Church in Washington County in the Greensburg community near Smithsburg. After looking it over they decided to build one upon the same general lines, but to seat 500 people instead of the smaller number seated by the Welty church. The upstairs, or loft, was divided into two sections, one for the women and one for the men when they came for their Love Feast Meetings. He stated that the lumber for the church was hauled from Hagerstown some fifteen miles away. Every bit of labor was "Free Gratis," he said. It was on one of those trips from Hagerstown, on Smithsburg Mountain, that his son, Upton, drank from a polluted pool and as a result came down with Typhoid fever.

The brick for the building were shipped from Frederick to Myersville, and hauled to the site of the church from there. They were able to build the large commodious church for the sum of $4500.00 He himself paid much of that. When the church could not care for the visitors during their Love Feasts, they were cared for in neighboring houses and barns. People came by the hundreds. Those days were days of large gatherings and combined reunions of the Brethren. They came from various sections of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

A student of the Bible, he has read the Book 14 times. He does not know how many times he has read the New Testament through. He showed the writer his favorite books, the well worn Bible, Hurlbut's Story of the Bible, and mentioned Henry's History of Maryland which he treasures. He stated that he arose at 5:30, read, and then ate breakfast. His appetite is good. He stated that he never lay down during the day, but sat in his chair and read until his eyes got tired. He never drinks either coffee or tea, just water. He also keeps up with the current events by reading the daily paper.

At the Grossnickle-Blessing family reunion, held in the social hall of the church, there were some 150 in attendance. They enjoyed the basket lunch. From the vantage point of his rocking chair he naturally was the center of attraction and many shook hands and visited with the man who carried one hundred years upon his shoulders. His hearing is but slightly impaired, his body control is slightly nervous but his mind is keenly alert. He normally uses a cane. "I can get along better with two canes when I go to church, but I do not use them as people may think that I am putting on," he said to the writer.

Although a mere youngster during the time of the Civil War, he vividly recalls some of the events. In 1862 during the battle of South Mountain, the cannon shots could be distinctly heard from the Grossnickle home. The hills intervening prevented seeing any smoke of battle, but each time the cannon shots were heard his mother and the other of the women present would cry. They knew that it meant death to the soldier boys. In 1863 when Lee's men were on their way to Gettysburg, the sound of marching feet was heard along the rippling Catoctin. The soldiers, he said, marched two by two. They came by the Grossnickle church but did not disturb it in any way. Neither did they bother any of the farm buildings. As they traveled, they were looking for horses. They looked over the Grossnickle horses, rejecting one in the field which was not up to their standards, taking the three good ones. When Upton's father pleaded with them not to take his horses, the Officer stated, "I will be tied to a stake and shot if I do not take them." There was nothing more to do than to watch them leave.

The soldiers were hungry and Upton's mother baked bread and pies for them. The old bake-open still stands in the lower corner of the yard that was used in that far off day. One of the young soldier boys, and these were Confederate soldiers or "Rebels," as Upton called them, complained about not having a hat. "My father took my straw hat off my head and gave it to the boy, putting it on his head. I do not know whether I had been fighting Bumble bees or not, but had knocked the crown out of the hat. The soldier boy took it off his head, turned it over and remarked 'this one doesn't have any bottom in it.'" The long line of gray marched

(Continued on Page 8)

OUR COVER PICTURE shows the home farm where Upton Grossnickle lived as a boy when the Confederates marched by. Down in the extreme right corner of the yard is the old bake oven where his mother baked pies and bread for the hungry rebels.

January 18, 19, 20, 1957

INTERESTING ITEMS

(Continued from Page 2)

TRINITY BRETHREN. CANTON, OHIO. Three new members were recently received into membership in the church.

MANSFIELD, OHIO. Brother John R. Terrell reports "very encouraging" attendance during the Sundays of their recent revival. Sunday School attendances of 112 and 118 were recorded with "at least 135" for the Church service the closing Sunday.

NEWARK, OHIO. Brother W. S. Crick was guest speaker at the West End Newark Union Thanksgiving Service in Cox Memorial EUB Church on November 21st.

On Thursday afternoon, November 8th, women and friends of the Newark Brethren Church met in the Chapel and organized a Woman's Missionary Society which already has eighteen members. Mrs. Frank Morrison, of Dayton, Ohio District W. M. S. President, was present and helped in the organizational activities.

WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO. Pastor Harold Garland was a patient in Miami Valley Hospital the latter part of November for surgery on his inner ear. Brethren Percy Miller and John Byler conducted the anointing service for him prior to the operation. Let us remember our brother in our prayers for his recovery.

The Laymen conducted their public service the morning of November 25th, presenting Rev. Balyo of Dayton, Ohio, as speaker.

NEW PARIS, INDIANA. Brother E. M. Riddle was guest speaker at the Union Thanksgiving service held in the Methodist church on November 21st.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. Rev. Dan Ankerberg wa guest speaker in the South Bend church on Novembe 18th.

PERU, INDIANA. Brother Robert Madoski was th guest speaker at the City Wide Thanksgiving servic held in the St. James EUB church on November 21st.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILLINOIS. The film, "Martin Lu ther," was shown in the Milledgeville church the eve ning of November 25th.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

MUSTARD SEED FAITH

"If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed . . nothing shall be impossible unto you." Matt. 17:20.

OUR FAITH is strong or weak just in proportion i which we believe that God will do just what H has said He will do. There is a mistaken view of fait that links the fulfillment of God's promises with our in pressions, with improbabilities, or with outward appea ances. If men try to link these things—impressions, in probabilities, or outward appearance with faith, th they are no longer resting on the Word of God, becau faith doesn't need any such assistance. FAITH REST ON THE NAKED WORD OF GOD.

When one can take God fully at His Word then t heart is at peace. God has pleasure in exercising o faith. This He does first for the blessing of our ov souls. Then He intends it for blessing in the church large, for as our soul is blessed it will radiate blessi to the whole church. And then, blessings bestowed individuals and the church will radiate out to the liv of those without the church.

But men shrink from this utter trust in the Almight instead of welcoming it. When trials come, then com doubt and concern beyond justification; and murmuri of resentment, and charges of partiality on the part God. When trials come we should learn to say, "T Heavenly Father has put this cup of trial into my han that I may have something sweet afterwards. "The swee will be the "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit t kingdom prepared for you," and we know that "eye ha not seen nor ear heard, neither have entered into t heart of man the things that God hath prepared for the that love Him." And so in the midst of the trials a difficulties that beset us we exclaim with Paul of o "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded th He is able to keep that which I have committed u Him against that day."

Support the White Gift Offering this month
Your Gifts will be a Wise Investment

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH
530 College Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Phone 39582

Contributing Editors: W. CLAYTON BERKSHIRE, Gen. Sec'y.
(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

ATTENTION PLEASE!

A FIRST DRAFT of plans for the Sarasota Church building has been submitted by the architect, Mr. Drus Eash, of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, to the Missionary Board. The Board has approved the plans and sent them on to Sarasota for their approval.

When the church gives the go-ahead sign, construction should be started not too far in the future. This will take funds. If you haven't given yet for this newest Brethren church, please do so soon; if you have given and can do more, that will be equally acceptable; but DO help to build at Sarasota. The fund is growing, but it is not yet large enough.

Give through the Ten Dollar Club, or send your offering marked "for Sarasota," and it will be put into that fund.

LET'S GET THAT CHURCH AT SARASOTA!

BRETHREN "AT WORK"

SOME OF THE "key people" for the Ten Dollar Club enlistment in our churches have really been working. Mr. Ben J. Carey, key man for the Pleasant Hill Church, writes the chairman of the Ten Dollar Club Committee, asking for more enrollment cards. He and his church have doubtless been on the job. Several other churches have been responding very well with new memberships. We hope still other churches will be challenged to do the same..

Pastor and church secretaries, please check and determine whether or not the first cards sent to your churches have been returned. The Ten Dollar Club Committee still has not received names of these persons for a few churches. Are all of you brethren "at work" on this?

OUR GOAL IS 2,000! We are on the way.

OPERATION "FOR GOOD"

ONE OF THE Sunday School classes in the New Paris Church—the "For Good" Class, by name—last spring determined to bring their class offering every month, for six months, for the Sarasota Church. A few weeks ago they sent in that offering—$500.00.

These New Paris people are certainly to be commended for their home mission vision and for their generosity ($500.00 in six months, and it is not a large class.) Now, if any others—individuals, classes or churches—are so inclined, the Mission Board and the Sarasota brethren will be thrilled to have them add their contribution to this new church fund.

The "For Good" Class has set an excellent pattern. Wouldn't it be fine if others would have a similar impulse? Incidentally, don't you think that class ("For Good") is well named?

REMOVING MOUNTAINS

THE WORK AT LOST CREEK has encountered many handicaps, but the workmen concerned seemingly never heard of the word quit.

When funds for the classroom building were exhausted—yes and when the Mission Board had borrowed as much as they felt they dared to go on with the undertaking—Dorman Ronk inaugurated a logging and sawmill program, designed to furnish funds to repay those that were borrowed and, if possible, to resume building.

A Do-It-Yourself Program

The venture required considerable equipment and organization before work could be started; but these obstacles, one by one, were surmounted. Reverend A. T. Ronk, of Waterloo, Iowa—Dorman's uncle—gave a fine motor to be used in the sawmill; Reverend G. T. Ronk, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa—another uncle of Dorman's—crated and shipped the motor to Lost Creek. However, other difficulties were encountered with the machinery. There were breakdowns and hills—or mountains—too rugged for the trucks to negotiate in hauling out the trees to the sawmill.

With characteristic ingenuity, Dorman repaired the temperamental machinery; then not to be stymied, he made a road around the mountain with a bulldozer (his own property), enabling the loggers to bring the timber to the sawmill. This house-that-Jack-built sequence eventually fell into place, and at present things are operating satisfactorily. We hope these favorable conditions continue; but they have resulted only from hard work, courage and considerable prayer—between jobs, such as installing a furnace for the Drushals, putting a roof on the new classroom building, etc.

Now, every time labor or material is needed for anything beyond the absolute essentials of logging and sawmill work, the Missionary Board office is obliged to reply, "No funds available." We dislike halting operations in this manner, when there is someone so willing and so capable on the job; but you can't pick water lilies on the desert—or in other words, we can't pay out what doesn't come in.

If our workman can remove mountains, why don't we come up with what it takes to perform some further miracles?

Incidentally, the people of the Lost Creek community are becoming greatly encouraged by the developments and indicate a desire to give the program further help—but more of that later. A detailed account of their homecoming will appear in subsequent issues of this paper.

OUR GOAL—2,000 TEN DOLLAR CLUB MEMBERS

THE DUNKER CENTENARIAN

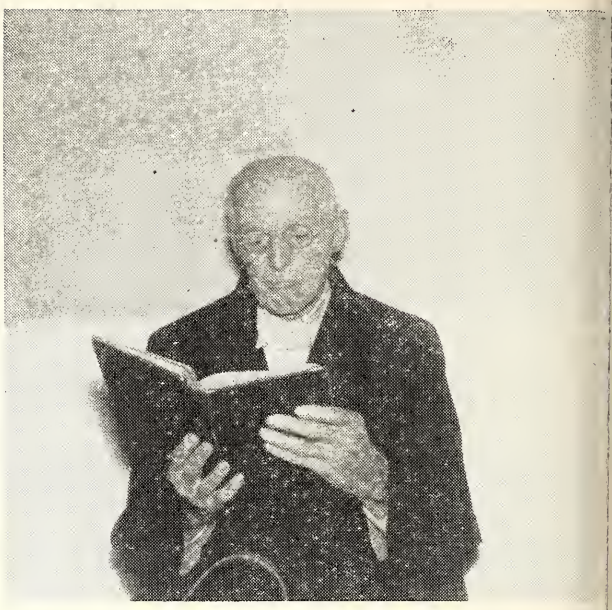
(Continued from Page 5)

on to Gettysburg, death, defeat and a place in history. The Grossnickles were strong Union sympathizers.

He remembers keenly the day of the scythe, with which they cut their hay; the cradle by which they cut their wheat, and the flails by which it was threshed. The hard raised wheat of those days brought from 50 to 75 cents per bushel. He said to the writer, "I am never sick, and have never been a patient in a hospital and was always ambitious. Why, when night came I was so ambitious that I wished it was morning that I might continue to work." One incident he tells of his younger days was when they missed train connections, in Hagerstown. So, not to be thwarted, they started the long trek over the mountain on foot. As the sun was coming over the hills, they had walked all night, reaching their home on the Catoctin. A recent Doctor gave him a perfect bill of health, stating that no medicine was needed. The habits of his farming days, of rising at 5:30 and going to bed at sundown, are still observed. Part of his time is spent with a daughter, Mrs. Elmer Leatherman (Carrie) at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. President Eisenhower is an Honorary member of the Barlow (near Gettysburg) Fire Department. Mr. Grossnickle is also an honorary member and one of his ambitions is to meet and shake hands with the President.

To all he is a living example of a hearty and sturdy stock dating back to those who settled Frederick county when it was a wilderness, possessing a strong religious sense and a physical stamina that places them in Frederick County History among the successful farm and church folk. In fact, many of the names on the mail boxes are Grossnickles, Leathermen, or Harshman, descendants of these three pioneer families, who braved the dangers of the wilderness, and accepted its challenge to successfully establish homes for themselves and succeeding generations. Their original libraries were small, consisting mainly of an almanac, perhaps Saur's and the German Bible. What they lacked in books, they stored up in their minds and hearts.

They cut the trees from the hillsides, accomplishing two things; making a place to farm and making for themselves dwelling places. Later on they quarried and shaped the limestone rock, of which there was an abundance, and erected their strong thick walled houses. A writer for the FREDERICK POST, after a visit to the Grossnickle Centenarian, stated, "One need go no farther than the old Grossnickle homestead, which is situated one mile beyond the church which bears the family name (Grossnickle Church of the Brethren) to see the evidence of his skill in farming. The stone mansion house centers the set of buildings which in times have been referred as as one of the most complete set for farming in the area. An auxiliary frame house built over a spring is unique with its kitchen and working quarters. It was related for years the family used the auxiliary unit as such (cooking, eating and laundry) and then climbed the hillside to the mansion for sleeping." The house is well kept and looks as though it could well be the birthplace of another Centenarian, and watch him or her reach that figure. It might be stated that Mr.



Mr. Grossnickle reading his Bible
—Photo by Freeman Ankrum.

Grossnickle is well aware of his place upon the sum mit of the years and knows approximately the numbe who reach that peak each year.

We asked him about the changes in the life of th church as he had witnessed it over the long span c years. "Some are good and some are not so good," h stated. He feels that the "Free Ministry," as practice in the early days of the church, has its merits. Thi meant that a congregation member who felt the urge t preach would be selected or elected to the Ministry, tal ing their turns in the pulpit. Their livelihood was care for by their own efforts.

When we stated that we had recently baptized or whom he knew, he asked with a twinkle in his ey "Where did you baptize him?" The answer was "pe haps we had better not discuss that matter." He lil many of another day, and perhaps some of today fe that baptisms should always be administered in a ru ning creek.

It should be stated that the first Mrs. Grossnickle di May 19, 1884 and rests in the hillside cemetery hard l the Grossnickle church. It was in 1887 that Mr. Gros nickle was married for the second time. Pioneers of tl church and community are sleeping their last sleep up the rolling hillsides overlooking the present church in tl beautiful valley through which flows the talkati Catoctin, as it has flowed for no man knows how lon Man may be old at 100 years but it is perhaps you at a thousand years.

Time demands dictated that this visit be terminate He was told that pictures were desired to which he rea ily consented. Material and information were not e hausted but other demands were upon the time of tho visiting and interviewing. Rev. Strickler in an aside we were planning for the pictures stated to the writ that when he visited him he always liked to close t

devotions with The Lord's Prayer in which Mr. Grossnickle took part. Pictures in several positions with his favorite book, the Bible, and his church magazine were taken.

He was told when this article was slated to be out. He and his daughter were much interested. After looking over the beautiful valley, and down upon the village of Myersville, we retired to his room. Here he seated himself in his favorite chair. It might be of interest to the reader to know when he was asked about his reading stated that "he could read large print without his glasses." The writer led in the devotions, following which Rev. Strickler, his Pastor, led in the Our Father. With a strong voice the Dunker Centenarian joined in with us in the prayer prayed for so many generations as a close to the prayers in the Dunker church.

A writer has said, "To many of this county, with lesser years of living he is a legend—his deeply religious beliefs, his arduous labor, his community spirit, his plain and frugal living making him in character one of the strongest, in wealth, one of the most prosperous and in respect, one of the leading farmers of his time. The whole northwest county bears his mark—the farms carry his distinctive ability as an agriculturist; a church bears his family name and his kin is heavily spread over the Myersville, Highland, Wolfsville area. Even those not related to him in name (though many of the mail boxes are signed with Grossnickle) can trace their history to his bearing or that of his family." The second Mrs. Grossnickle died April 8, 1945.

Though he knows he has been favored above many of the human race, he looks to God in his deep religious conviction as the author and the giver of his numerous blessings. His outlook upon life is not that of a man who carries five score years but one who has still many years for his use. Though life's sun is sinking low, and the hills of time cast their shadows daily longer and longer across his path, he looks forward with a faith that shall bring him to a land where hymn writer so ably states, "we shall never grow old." As has been previously stated, he retires to his room at sundown, going to bed. Those not yet ready to retire may hear him singing the old hymns of the church. Finally the voice becomes lower and lower, and then it is realized as is his habit that he has sung himself to sleep. With the words of the prayer together still fresh in our ears we shook hands with him and stated that we hoped to meet with him when he had turned another marker of the years and had become one hundred and one years of age. To say we left inspired would be lightly stating the situation. May God continue to bless the one who has been so faithful to Him over so long a span of time, The Dunker Centenarian.

St. James, Maryland.

A Letter from Ed Miller

(Editor's Note: The Editor has received the following personal letter from Brother Ed Miller, the major portion of which we would like to share with Evangelist readers. Brother Miller tells of his experience when stricken with a heart attack, and of his marvelous recovery.)

"Dear Brother Benshoff:

"Just a little personal note in which I can say I am feeling fine and about ready to go back on the job full time. I had a severe attack Sunday A. M., Sept. 23rd. In a short time I was in the hospital at Woodstock. By morning, my three daughters from the D. C. area were on hand, and I was given full-time nursing care and the best of medical attention. I spent four weeks in the hospital. I returned home Oct. 20, and the next evening conducted the regular fall Communion service unto a house full of communicants. Then I came to Chevy Chase to spend some time recuperating at the home of my daughter, Edna Lois, Mrs. Pitch, a nurse of 22 years experience, for 2½ years supervisor of the big Sibley hospital in Washington and for the past 5 years a Public Health Supervisor in Washington. I note this latter to let you know I am getting the best of care.

"I was home for Sunday services last week-end and expect to be there again this week-end. The folks have been very considerate of me, and I appreciate it very much."

(Brother Miller continues with an account of a funeral for Mr. Hepner, Jr., of his church for whom he held services Sunday afternoon, Nov. 4th.) "Yes, it was a difficult situation for a fellow just recently on his pins. But the Lord strengthened, and I got through with no serious ill effects. The funeral was one of the largest I have conducted down here, and I have had many real large ones.

"The work at Maurertown is going along real nicely. Our S. S. is a well organized affair and has an attendance in the 160's, and runs higher at times. That in a village of about 135 to 140. The W. M. S. Sr. and W. M. S. Jr. are very active, as are the Mary and Martha and the Laymen. It makes a pastor feel good to see all at work.

"Just this week the Church and S. S. are converting the coal furnace in the parsonage to oil, and installing a new water heater. This will make for cleanliness, ease of operation and comfort, with better and more even heat. For this the pastor is very thankful, as he gets going again.

"Because of the pastor being taken out of the picture these past weeks, the Church decided to postpone our annual revival services which were to begin October 22 with Bro. John T. Byler as Evangelist. We are hoping to have him a little later when the parson can be on the job with him.

(Brother Miller continues by telling of the acquisition of a plot of ground to the south of the Church). "This is badly needed for parking purposes, etc. The deed will be approved at our next Board meeting.

"Hope you can read my scribbling. Editors and school teachers must be able to read anything. I found that out. Best to all, Love as ever,

Only Bro. Ed."

Maurertown, Virginia.

What's Doing in the Churches

FROM LOREE TO HUNTINGTON

Moving day is indeed quite an experience for anyone, and especially for a pastor. In thirty-six years of ministry we have moved six times. My wife says, she moves and I go along, which has some truth, but I do try to help some. However this is a church report and not the incidentals of life.

It has been my conviction that when a man is ordained to the gospel ministry, it is of sufficient importance and the need for it so great that it requires all his time and talent to diligently serve. After so many years in the city it was a bit different in a rural community, for Loree is a rural church, formerly only half time preaching, but the last few years a full time program. It is a good congregation with a nice church and parsonage but strictly rural. Of course I was of the herdman of (Tekoa) Illinois, and was quite at home in the country. We had a fruitful pastorate of five years, receiving 76 new members into the church; a number of very fine new families. This seems rather small to me for having received that number in one year at various times in city work where there is a center of population and many to reach, but Loree has no center of population from which to draw. It is a fertile farming area and some live in the community and have employment in the nearby cities, making a very substantial and prosperous community. Leaving a congregation is not just moving, for a pastoral relation is the most intimate and tender of all life's relations, and you do not wipe your mouth and say, "Well, goodbye, we're going to leave you," for you establish friendships that never lose their interest.

There is a challenge in a new field, and Huntington is that challenge to us. We are very nicely located and the church here has received us warmly, with so many kind words of appreciation. In a city of 15,000 there are plenty of prospects and opportunities for service which we shall seek to develope and turn to profit in the Lord's work.

This church has not grown as it should, but that is no reason why we should not anticipate a response from the people of Huntington that we have found elsewhere. The Lord has always prospered our labor and we have faith to believe He will do so here. Here we find some of the finest folk and expect to add to that number. Churches are not for the employment of preachers, but preachers are for the purpose of building churches. Our great task is to reach people for Christ and salvation and to build them up in that most holy faith.

Rev. Horace Huse has moved to Loree and we offer our good wishes and prayers for a joyous and fruitful pastorate there. Our predecessor here, is now teaching in the public schools at Convoy, Ohio, near Van Wert. We believe the world greatly needs the whole gospel message which the Brethren church is set to declare. Certainly we should have more preachers and churches working at so great a task till the Lord returns in glory.

Claud Studebaker,
506 E. State St., Huntington, Indiana.

REVIVAL MEETING AT CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

After two weeks of Cottage Prayer Meetings, and four weeks of mailing Mid-week Letters relating to the proposed campaign, our two week meeting was opened on The Lord's Day, October 7th, 1956, by Rev. David Clarke White as our evangelist, and Mr. William Dively, Berlin, Pa., as Director of Congregational Singing.

The Second Sunday of the Revival was marked by our Annual Harvest-Home-Coming at 2:30 P. M., which was preceded by a Carry-in Basket Dinner in the Church Dining Rooms. The Rev. Ralph Mills, Minister, The Brethren Church, Berlin, was our Guest Speaker at the afternoon Service, which was well attended and apparently enjoyed by all present.

"Special Music" was featured at each service throughout the meeting. In addition to Mr. Dively and his "Christian" trombone, we had special numbers from the Berlin Brethren Church, accompanied by Mrs. Wm. Dively, Sr.; the Fort Hill A cappella Choir; the Fort Hill Boys' Quartette, accompanied and directed by Prof. Harold Hansen; Frank Coffman, Baritone Soloist, with violin obligato by James Deihl, an accomplished violinist.

Our much loved Brother D. C. White lived up to his reputation as a preacher of the Holy Word, in his forceful dynamic manner, which was evidenced by the most careful attention given by his hearers at each service. Services were well attended. However due to the fact that ours is the 14th congregation within a radius of 6 blocks this field is rather thoroughly covered, and it seems to grow more difficult each year to bring into the services the unsaved. However Brother White's messages did not pass by unheeded, and 4 additions were made to the Congregation by baptism and confirmation on the last day of the meeting, for which we are truly grateful.

The two weeks of evangelistic services were brought to a close with observance of our Fall Three-fold Communion on the evening of October 21st in which Brother White assisted the Pastor; this service was well attended. The four newly added members of the Congregation received their first communion at this service. We are praying for a continued ingathering of souls.

Most sincerely in His Service,
L. O. McCartneysmith, Minister.

Laid to Rest

HEPNER. Lloyd E. Hepner, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd E. Hepner, Sr., of Woodstock, Va., died suddenly of a heart attack about mid-night, Oct. 31st. He was aged 39 years, 10 months, and 5 days. Also survived by his wife, Margaret, by six children all under the age of 15 years, and one sister. Services were held by the undersigned on Sunday, November 4th in the Dellinger Funeral Home, Woodstock, with an overflowing crowd of relatives and friends present. Rev. E. B. Wolford, Pastor Woodstock Christian Church, assisted in the service.

E. L. Miller, Pastor.

* * *

WISMAN. Mrs. Luella Wisman, 90, widow of Joseph Wisman one of the town of Edinburg's most beloved residents died Sept. 30, 1956. Mrs. Wisman, whose maiden name was Maphis was born at St. Luke, West of Woodstock, Virginia. Life-long member of the Brethren church. In 1882, she married Joseph F. Wisman. Their six children survive along with seventeen grandchildren and twenty-eight great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Funeral services for this godly and well-loved woman were conducted Oct. 2, by the undersigned, and the Rev. Lawrence Helsley of the Church of the Brethren, in the Dellinger Funeral Chapel of Woodstock, and her body was laid to rest in the family lot in the St. Luke Cemetery. Her grandsons served as pallbearers.

John F. Locke.

* * *

KISLING. Herman B. Kisling was born 74 years ago in the vicinity of the Mt. Olive Church of which he became a member in his youth. About twenty-five years ago he moved with his family to Waynesboro, Virginia. He was diligent in his work and was spared any lingering illness, working until the day of his departure. Funeral services conducted Sunday Afternoon October 7 by the undersigned. Interment in the family lot in the Mt. Olive Church Cemetery. Appropriate music for the services was provided by the Mt. Olive Church choir. Brother Kisling is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Robert Shope with whom he made his home.

John F. Locke, Pastor Mt. Olive Brethren Church, McGaheysville, Va.

* * *

STIFFLER. Edward Thomas Stiffler, five day old son of Ronald and Ruth Stiffler, members of Johnstown Third Brethren Church, died Monday, September 17, and was buried the next day in the Benshoff Hill Cemetery. Services were conducted at the grave side by the pastor..

* * *

STIFFLER. Roy Stiffler, member of Johnstown Third Brethren Church, passed to the next life after an illness of several weeks. He first was stricken with a heart attack in Florida where he and Mrs. Stiffler were living at the time, and after a few weeks was transferred to Raymond Hospital in Johnstown, where he died September 21, 1956. Services held at the Picking Funeral Home, Johnstown, by the pastor, assisted by Rev. W. B. Brant and Rev. George Jones, of Vinco and Second Brethren Churches, respectively. The two Stiffler families named here are not related.

Clarence A. Stogsdill.

* * *

HENDRIX. Funeral services for Charles Hendrix, a member of long standing in the Burlington Brethren church, were conducted by his pastor October 1, 1956. He was active and faithful in attendance in the Burlington church for many years. He was a contender for the Brethren faith. He had suffered from a lingering illness for several years. He left his family well anchored in the faith. His going leaves a vacant spot in the community as well as the pews of the Burlington Brethren Church.

Floyd Sibert.

* * *

STUCKEY. Virgil Stuckey was born Feb. 17, 1906, and passed to his eternal reward Nov. 9, 1956, at his home near Massillon, Ohio. Survived by his wife and two brothers, M. A. Stuckey of San Antonio, Texas, and Fred Stuckey, of Alliance, Ohio. Member Brethren Church, Louisville, Ohio. Funeral services by the pastor in Massillon, with burial in Calvary cemetery, Massillon.

L. V. King.

* * *

SMITH. Mrs. John (Grace) Smith, of Hagerstown, Md., died Tuesday morning, November 13th after an illness of several weeks. Had long been a member of the First Brethren Church of Hagerstown. Survived by her husband; a daughter, Mrs. Ella Smith Bowman; a sister, Mrs. Braden Ridenour. Funeral services conducted by Rev. DeWitt Miller, pastor of the Hagerstown Church of the Brethren, on November 16th.

Wedding Announcement

MERBOTH-LAW. Eva Rose Merboth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Merboth, Lanark, was united in marriage to Mr. Don Law of Savanna, Illinois in the First Brethren Church, Lanark, Ill. at 2:00 P. M. on October 14. Mrs. Law has been serving on the Sunday School staff as a teacher for the past two years. Presently they are living in Lanark.

H. F. Berkshire.

* * *

MILLER-WEIDENHAMER. The double ring ceremony, read by Rev. Robert L. Hoffman, pastor, united in marriage Miss Maryln Ruth Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dwight L. Miller, of Smithville, and Laurence E. Weidenhamer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Weidenhamer, of Ashland. The ceremony took place in the Smithville Brethren Church, in the presence of many relatives and friends, on Sunday afternoon, August 26th. A reception for 300 guests was held in the church dining room. The bride is a Sophomore at Ashland College, and the groom is a Junior at Ashland College. They are residing at 621½ Claremont Ave., Ashland, Ohio.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

A CANDLE

A candle is a lovely thing
  To light for Him tonight,
A brave white candle straight and tall
  To make the darkness bright.
So white He was, so tall and straight
  That all the world was lit,
A pathway widening out ahead,
  As He walked into it.
A candle burning in the night,
  A symbol of the One
Who shed a glow of radiant light
  Until His work was done.

—Author Unknown.

WE ARE TOLD that conscience is the candle of the Lord fixed in the human breast, and is the natural light that makes us sensible of right and wrong (Prov. 20:27). But conscience is not a sure guide unless it is enlightened by the Word of God and governed by the Holy Spirit (Psalm 18:28). When first the Holy Spirit enlightens the conscience there is conviction of sin and of one's dire need of the Savior (Acts 16:30). It is through the candle of grace that we are rescued, that the lost is found (Luke 15:8). Christ is as a search light to seek the lost (Luke 19:10). It takes the Divine Light to find the helpless and to judge the impenitent (Ezek. 34:16). The Light that condemns the impenitent (John 3:19-21) furnishes a warm welcome to the penitent (Luke 15:22).

The rescued, in turn, become candles for the Lord (Matt. 5:14-16). Such candles are counted on to furnish a clear, pure light to a benighted world (Phil. 2:14-16).

HIS LAMP AM I

To shine where He shall say;
And lamps are not for sunny rooms
  Nor for the light of day,
But for dark places of the earth
  Where shame, wrong and crime have birth,
Or for the murky twilight gray
  Where wandering sheep have gone astray,
Or where the light of faith grows dim
  And souls are groping after Him.
And as sometimes a flame we find
  Clear-shining through the night,
So bright we do not see the lamp
  But only see the light,
So may I shine—His life the flame—
  That men may glorify His name.

—Annie Johnson Flint.

The light of nature and the spark of reason may furnish a routine through an earthly life-time in this world, but they will never light us into Eternity in safety, and when death comes we shall have no ligh (Job 18:6). Without the Christ as the Light for the sou (John 8:12), death will come and then no light can be obtained (Matt. 25:8; Luke 13:25-27). If the light tha is in us be darkness (Matt. 6:23b; Luke 11:35) only perdition can possibly be our destiny (Matt. 7:21-23) But for those who are followers of "THE TRUE LIGHT" (John 1:9) there is a bright and glorious future (Rev. 22:5).

The candlestick speaks of Christ (Heb. 9:2), of the Church (Rev. 1:13, 20), and of Christ's followers (Matt. 5:14-16).

"The lamp is a text for young and old,
  Who seek, in a world of pride,
To shine for their Lord and to show Him forth
  And never their light to hide.
You are the lantern, a thing of naught,
  But Christ is the Light inside."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for December 16, 1956

THE WAY OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

Lesson: I Corinthians 13

WITHOUT LOVE all else is meaningless. Dr. A. B Simpson said that the graceful robe of a Hindu woman is fastened upon her person entirely by means of a single knot. The long strip of cloth is wound aroun her person so as to fall in graceful folds like a mad garment, and the end is fastened by a little knot, an the whole thing hangs by that single fastening. If tha were loosed the robe would fall. And so in the spiritua life our habits of grace are likened unto garments. LOVE is the crowning adornment, the knot that holds all els together.

The LOVE chapter, I Corinthians 13, is a precious gem set between chapters 12 and 14. In these three chap ters Paul discusses Spiritual gifts. The Church at Corint had been guilty of majoring on minors. They exalted th lesser gifts, while minimizing the more important. Th most highly prized gift, said Paul, was that which woul benefit the church. "Even so ye, forasmuch, as ye ar zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to th edifying of the church" (14:12).

After mentioning a number of the Spiritual gifts— miracles, healing, helps, speaking in tongues, etc.—Pau concludes by urging the Christians to "covet earnestl the best gifts: and yet shew (teach) I unto you a mor excellent way (path)." In this way he introduces chapte 13, the LOVE chapter. Thus he was saying that of al the gifts, the greatest is LOVE; and of all the pathway a man may trod, the greatest is the pathway of LOVE

LOVE, as used in this passage, means Divine LOVE It is the same word used in John 3:16—"For God s

loved the world . . . " As such it is divinely-inspired and can only come from God.

..A voice without LOVE is "as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." I may be able to express myself in all clarity and all sincerity, but if I do it without the spirit of LOVE I will fail to convey my message.

A faith without LOVE will avail nothing, though it be that degree of faith that "could remove mountains."

A gift without LOVE "profiteth me nothing" in God's sight. For without the spirit of LOVE to sanctify it and make it holy it will simply be a selfish gift. Even the heroic act of sacrifice may be selfishly motivated, for says Rev. H. M. Freligh, "Sacrifice without LOVE looks to the present for its reward, but LOVE sacrifices not for the sake of reward but for the sake of its Object, Christ Jesus."

When all is said and done it will be LOVE that "never faileth." It will be LOVE that will continue to exist when all else is gone.

The three greatest qualities essential to Christian living are FAITH, HOPE, and LOVE. "But the greatest of these is LOVE."

"It was LOVE that sent a Savior to this world of sin and woe;
It was LOVE that left heaven's portals, and came down to dwell below;
It was LOVE that stilled the waters on the stormy Galilee;
It was LOVE that paid sin's ransom, one dark day on Calvary.

LOVE so divine, LOVE so sublime,
LOVE that is deeper than any sea;
LOVE for us all, O how can it be!"

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

LESSON COMMENTARIES

A GOOD LESSON COMMENTARY is an indispensable tool of the Sunday school teacher. Anyone teaching the International Uniform Lessons should have one of these valuable volumes. For a mere 6c a week you may have at your fingertips lesson explanations, illustrations, teaching tips, and many other features. And they make excellent Christmas gifts too!

The Standard Lesson Commentary ($2.95) is the one we recommend for our Sunday school teachers. This commentary not only explains the lesson; it tells how to teach it. It takes you step by step through every lesson from beginning to end. It also contains excellent articles introducing the lessons for each quarter and many pictures—something unheard of in Sunday school lesson commentaries. This book is available in quarterly form under the name Standard Bible Teacher and Leader ($2.00 a year). We believe it is the most practical lesson commentary on the market; every teacher should have it.

Peloubet's Select Notes ($2.75), now in its 83rd year, is probably the oldest commentary on the market. Dr. Wilbur M. Smith, one of America's greatest Bible scholars, is its editor. Dr. Smith's lesson explanation frequently covers the entire lesson—not just the part printed in the quarterly. (There's a big difference!) One outstanding feature is Dr. Smith's recommendations of reference books for the teacher. This is a fine commentary, containing some of the best notes to be found anywhere.

Tarbell's Teacher's Guide ($2.50) is likewise one of the old standbys. This commentary is similar to many others, but its outstanding point is its illustrations. For the teacher who knows his Bible and knows how to teach it, but needs illustrative material—this is the commentary to buy.

Broadman Comments ($2.50) is a product of the Southern Baptist Convention. Its explanations are well written and easy to understand, with a single outline included for each lesson. Like most commentaries it lists audio-visual resources for the lessons.

The Douglass Sunday School Lessons ($2.95) are edited by Earl L. Douglass, whose syndicated religious newspaper column is the most widely read in the country. This commentary contains the lesson text, explanation and lesson plan, hints to teachers, and audio-visual suggestions.

Arnold's Commentary ($2.25) is edited by a minister, but laymen also write parts of it. This volume begins with several pages of general editorials and ends with a brief Bible dictionary—a feature we have not seen in any other commentary.

There are several other well-known lesson commentaries on the market, such as **The International Lesson Annual** ($2.95), **Higley's Sunday School Commentary** ($2.25), and **The Gist of the Lesson** (75c).

Good lesson preparation is the key to good lesson teaching. Commentaries such as those recommended above are indispensable helps in preparing your Sunday school lesson. Start now to get ready for 1957; invest in a lesson commentary for yourself, or give one to your teacher for Christmas. You'll be glad you did!

How About Your Offerings?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers, also please note:

WHITE GIFT OFFERING

Make checks payable to Henry Bates, Treasurer of the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church, and address to Rev. Henry Bates, 404 N. Wayne St., North Manchester, Indiana.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

BILLY BOOTH HAS "A-ROVE"

YES SIR, BILLY BOOTH IS HERE!! Two weeks ago I told you of his coming to be a helper on the Brethren Youth staff, and now he is here and hard at work. We have needed more help in the Brethren Youth office and on the road too, so his arrival was most welcome to us here in Ashland. But I guess I'd better do this up right with a special announcement.

LA-----DIES AND GEN-----TLEMEN: I take great pleasure in presenting the newest member of the Brethren Youth staff,

BILLY BOOTH, THE BRETHREN YOUTH

Billy is a real regular fellow who is vitally interested in seeing all phases of Brethren Youth work go forward. You'll see him a little bit of everywhere helping with publicity, special announcements, and the regular programs. He's going to lead the way for future advancement and show us how our youth work should move forward. I hope you get to know him real well, and tell others about his existence too.

But enough of my words. Here's Billy to speak for himself with a special announcement.

"Folks, I'm Billy Booth, the Brethren Youth. Thanks for lettin' me talk with you for a couple of moments because I have something real important-like to say. Now get this—I have mailed to all Brethren pastors, youth directors, and B. Y. C. advisors a copy of the one and only

BRETHREN YOUTH CRUSADERS' HANDBOOK

This is what you've been looking for and asking about.

It answers such questions as:

Where can we order program materials for our meeting?

Is there a B. Y. Installation Service for new members?

How can we organize a youth group in our church?

What are the B. Y. Goals for this year?

Do you have any Christmas plays?

What is our National Project for 1957?

"And, what's better, this HANDBOOK is absolutely free!! Nothing down and nothing to pay!! All I ask is that your B.Y.C. group uses it. For it will be absolutely useless if it lies unopened on your desk, in your file, or under the latest issue of Life magazine on your coffee table.

"That's enough 'gab' for now—watch for me on the cover of your B.Y. HANDBOOK, and we'll go on from there. I'll see ya later."

Well, Brethren, that's Billy Booth, the Brethren Youth I've learned to like him very much already and I know you will too. Not everyone of you is going to receive a copy of the BRETHREN YOUTH HANDBOOK Billy is talking about. But every one of your pastors has received one, so there is one you can use at hand. If no one has said anything about the B.Y. HANDBOOK yet do some asking around and uncover this jewel in hiding

"There is plenty of action in a rocking chair, but you don't get anywhere."

HOLIDAY HABITS—good or bad?

Billy Booth: How many weeks of school do we have yet before Christmas vacation, Chuck?

Chuck: I'm not sure. Two I think.

B. B.: Gee, that long yet. What are you going to do when we don't have school?

Chuck: Oh, I don't know. I've been studying pretty hard so guess I'll just loaf. I really like vacation, but it is sort of a waste of time.

B. B.: I've been thinkin' the same thing, but look here what I read in the North Manchester Sunday Bulletin for November 25.

"YOUTH AT WORK—Friday of the past week found about fifteen Junior B. Y. C.ers busy at the all-day work meeting. Twenty-two 'knick-knack' boxes were made for Miss Lowery for her work at Krypton, Ky. . . The young folks also cleaned out all of the envelope holders on the backs of the pews. PLEASE—these holders are for envelopes and cards—not for scrap paper and 'worn out' chewing gum! . . . The young people are to be congratulated on their interest in this type of Christian service. Periodical work meetings are another of the opportunities for Christian fellowship which our church's growing youth program is offering to our boys and girls

Chuck: Well, what do you think of that? Maybe we could get our B. Y. C. together over the holidays and have fun like that too.

B. B.: Chuck, I think you're right. There is always a lot to do around the church at Christmas with special programs and decorations. And this would help to give our vacation some special meaning. Let's start making plans right now. Boy, I wish every B. Y. C. would do the same thing for their church. This is one way we can give as the wise men did!

LATE RELEASES

THE B. Y. BOOSTER CLUB now totals 86 members. Send the members from your church in to our National Office as soon as you can. (On second thought, don't send the members themselves, just their membership cards.)

B. Y. Magazine subscription renewals are coming steadily. Have you sent yours yet? You'll miss the next issue unless you act now!!

MIAMI VALLEY BRETHREN YOUTH RALLY

Sunday .....December 9, 1956

Pleasant Hill Brethren Church

B. Y. Workshop included

Plod to Pleasant Hill, People

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

(We are sorry that material for this column had not reached us at press time this week.)

MY DIARY

Mrs. George Drushal

(Ed. Note: Mrs. Drushal's Diary, a feature which has proved popular with Evangelist readers in the past, is being resumed this week with the arrival of copy from Sister Drushal. It will appear serially each week as Sister Drushal finds time to write and send it to us. This is the day by day account of happenings at our mission in Lost Creek, Kentucky where Brother and Sister Drushal have pioneered and labored for more than fifty years.)

August 23, Thurs. Moved into the new parsonage today, even though it is not finished. Papa's birthday. He's feeling fine and works like a 50 year old.

August 27. Mon. School began today with a good enrollment, but we are short two teachers. Mrs. Odessa Joseph, one of Riverside's former students, offered to help out for a few weeks. All taking double loads. Papa had intended not teaching his science class this year. We know nothing else to do but try to go on, although all know we cannot carry on this way very long. All are taking special time for prayer. None of us have the leading that the school should close with such a fine group of students here. We see nothing to do but what we have already done. We think of the old saying "God's work done in God's way shall never lack supplies." Our financial and material needs are being supplied and as we pray together we see no other way than to do as we have been doing. We had a faculty meeting today for special prayer. All are agreed to keep going as long as we can.

August 28. Tues. No word from any high school teachers, but all went well today. Miss Stoffer teaches the first four grades; Mr. Hall, grades 5-8; Mrs. Joseph, Adah, Miss Entz, the high school work; with Papa and I filling in where we can. Mrs. Ratley has charge of the cooking. Mr. and Mrs. Teed look after the boys in the Wheeler Home, and Mr. Teed is our maintenance man and has charge of the boy's work. Adah has charge of the girl's dormitory. When the rest of us get out of the class room, we come to a quiet home, but she, after her heavy schedule, comes home to a noisy group of girls who make constant demands on her time and energy. Did she not love them, she could not put up with it.

August 31. Fri. First week of school closed. A couple new enrollments but no prospects for another teacher, except God's promises which are "Yea and Amen."

Sept. 3. Mon. Second week of school began with no one in view for the other needed teacher. Adah found she could not keep up her 7 classes in 6 periods, so Mrs. Joseph took one more, making six for her and six for Adah.

Sept. 4, Tues. Our hopes were raised when we got a letter from a woman in Ohio saying she was interested in the work here. Papa wrote at once asking her if she could come this year.

Sept. 5. Wed. Got one more room straightened up in our new home. Have but little time to get the house fixed up.

Sept. 7. Fri. Mr. and Mrs. Ownes from Three Links, Ky., here for lunch. After lunch, Mrs. Perkins and her daughter, from Mass. came. Mrs. Perkins has been one of Riverside's faithful supporters for over 20 years.

Sept. 10. Mon. Put fire in the big fireplace for the first time. Had a very pleasant faculty meeting. Had a number of things to plan for, and discuss. This Monday meeting with the faculty has always been a helpful time when we all feel free to discuss our problems, pray together and make plans for the betterment of Riverside. We have had this meeting with the teachers once a week for nearly fifty years and many a knotty problem has been worked out and solved. Our new, larger living room with the open fireplace, makes an ideal place for such meetings.

Sept. 11. Tues. J. B. and Mildred Landrum here from Lexington; both Riverside graduates. Mildred said, "I don't see why we can't have a Brethren Church at Lexington." Took noon hour for prayer. Had Faculty meeting for prayer after supper. Letters from two prospective teachers, but both said they could not come until next year.

Sept. 13. Thurs. While we were eating supper, Brother James Cook and his wife came to call. He started the work at Krypton. About 30 years ago, he and Papa scouted around up in Perry County to find a location for a new Mission point, and found Krypton, then a thriving mining center. After Bible class this afternoon, we made a number of calls.

Sept. 15. Sat. Papa began preaching at Haddix again tonight. Sunday is too busy a day for him and folks like Saturday night services anyway. Rev. Hency, of Franklin, Ohio, called on us this afternoon. Got a letter from a prospective teacher. Wrote her at once.

Sept. 17. Mon. Pleasant Facuty meeting. No demerits given. One boy was asked to shovel coal for a little disobedience.

Sept. 18. Tues. Faculty prayermeeting here in our living room.

Sept. 19. Wed. Papa ate something which did not agree with him and not feeling well. Mr. Hall had charge of prayermeeting in the chapel. Mr. Teed made a book case for our living room.

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The Brethren EVANGELIST

Official Organ of The Brethren Church

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NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

MATTESON BRETHREN CHURCH, Bronson, Michigan, Dedicates new Church on October 14, 1956

The Matteson Brethren Church is located on Route M-86, R. F. D., Bronson, Michigan.

Fred Pippen, Sherwood, Michigan, Is the Lay-Pastor.

(Story on Page Eight)

VOL. LXXVIII | December 15, 1956 | No. 49

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

ST. JAMES, MARYLAND. Brother Freeman Ankrum reports in his bulletin: "The Union Thanksgiving service held in the St. James Brethren church was well attended though rain fell copiously."

LINWOOD, MARYLAND. Attendance at the recent Father and Son banquet was about 65.

One new member was received into the church by baptism recently.

The Choir of the Linwood church furnished special music at the revival of the Uniontown church of God recently. Due to the Evangelist being called home because of illness, Brother Bruce Shanholtz, who accompanied the choir, was called upon to bring the evening message.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. Third Brethren was host to the Quarterly Rally of the Home Circle Sunday School Convention, afternoon and evening of November 18th.

JONES MILLS, PENNA. VALLEY BRETHREN. Three who had been baptized, October 28th, were received into the church fellowship on November 4th.

MANSFIELD, OHIO. The new film, "Seventeen," was shown in the Mansfield church the evening of December 2nd.

AKRON, OHIO, FIRESTONE PARK BRETHREN. Brother J. G. Dodds was the speaker at the South Arlington Neighborhood Thanksgiving Service at the Arlington St. EUB church the evening of November 21st. There are nine cooperating churches in the group.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO. The sick and the shut-ins of the areas served by the Smithville church may now listen to services of their church through the new project of the Smithville Brethren Laymen. From time to time church services are tape recorded and are taken to the homes, or hospitals, of those who are ill or shut-in.

CANTON, OHIO. TRINITY BRETHREN. Brother and Sister Robert Keplinger are the proud parents of a 6 lb., 8 oz. baby boy born the morning of December 5th, at Canton.

DAYTON, OHIO, HILLCREST BRETHREN. Two new members were received into the church on November 25th, by baptism.

BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO. GRETNA BRETHREN Brother George Solomon notes that their W. M. S. re cently sent six boxes of clothing to the Krypton, Ker tucky, Mission.

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO. The Father and Son banque was held on November 26th. Brother William H. Ande son says, "This was our first banquet; 54 in attendance. Brother John Burton, of Gratis, was the speaker.

Richard Allison, Seminary student at Ashland was th guest speaker in the Pleasant Hill church on Novembe 11th.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Baptismal services were held th evening of November 25th.

WABASH, INDIANA. COLLEGE CORNER BRETH REN. We note that Brother G. B. Hanna was re-electe Chairman of the Waltz Township Ministerium.

Brother Hanna notes that the College Corner parsor age is being covered with asbestos shingles.

Brother Hanna was the Thanksgiving Convocatio speaker at the Somerset School on November 21st.

ROANN, INDIANA. Work on the new addition co tinues, as Brother T. A. Shannon notes concerning th dining room, "The finishing of the work is in sight. Th kitchen cabinets are promised for December 10th."

LANARK, ILLINOIS. New hymnals are being pu chased for the church.

WATERLOO, IOWA. Eighty-six fathers and sons a tended the annual banquet on November 13th.

Mrs. Myron Lamb, church correspondent, informs u that Pastor A. T. Ronk was elected President of th Waterloo Ministerial Association.

It is also noted that the Wednesday evening Bib study, with Brother Ronk as teacher, has an attendanc of between 40 and 50.

ATTENTION

PASTORS AND CHURCH SECRETARIES:

This week, a letter is being mailed to each of y from your Publication Board, with additional informati relative to the forthcoming changes in the Evangelist, noted on this page last week. We urge your caref study of the contents of the letter, and a prompt retu of the accompanying post card. Thanks. W. S. B.

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

The Brethren Youth Crusaders Handbook

NOW IN THE HANDS of Brethren pastors and youth leaders, is the brand new, loose-leaf, booklet known as the "Handbook for Brethren Youth Crusaders."

The production of this attractive and valuable Program Planning Handbook is a matter of interest to all Brethren. Thus we are taking a few minutes this week to call attention to it Editorially. It is important to all, because what affects Brethren Youth affects all Brethren.

The Brethren Youth Board, Youth Director Phil Lersch, and the Handbook Committee, Miss Margaret E. Lowery, Chairman, Rev. Henry Bates, and Miss Lila Miller, are to be commended for the excellent content and format of this new opus.

For a long time there has been felt a need for some such booklet. Youth leaders and pastors were being challenged by our churches "to hold" youth meetings. At times, the cry arose that "materials and sources of materials were not available." (At times, too, that which was available was not used!) Result: poorly prepared and uninteresting youth meetings to which young people came for a while and then became disinterested.

Partially due to the young people themselves, in part due to lack of, or poorly trained adult leadership, or to a dearth of materials, youth meetings in many churches resolved into laments that "the young people won't come and we just can't keep youth meetings going." Then the whole church wonders why.

The new Brethren Youth Program Handbook is the answer to at least one-third of the problem —materials. It contains hundreds of suggestions, names of books, pamphlets, and materials, and where to secure them. It tells how to organize a B. Y. C. There are suggestions for Bible study, doctrinal training, music, recreation, etc.

Church members, young people, ask your pastor, or youth leaders to see this helpful Crusaders Booklet today. It won't be a cure all, nor will it make your youth meeting a success, alone, any more than a good automobile alone will make a poor driver a good one. But, the use of this Booklet for what it is, in the hands of good local youth leadership will give Brethren young people an excellent opportunity to grow in knowledge and understanding of God's Holy Word and Christian living. It will provide materials for willing hands to use in training young leaders in our churches.

We join the youth director in suggesting that the Booklet be not confined to a desk drawer, but that it be kept where handy, and be used. Let it be used to help Brethren Youth grow strong as Christians, and as leaders in tomorrow's church today.

So, take a good look at this new creation, study it, and then give your loyal support to the building up of a first class youth work in your church. In this work every member of the church can be engaged, and that is why we have given space this week to it.

The Brethren Church now has a wonderful tool which can be utilized not only in building up the young people's work, but which can bear fruit throughout every age group, today and tomorrow. We dare do no less than to see that our youth is given every encouragement in our church. The National Brethren Youth Board has seen this need, too, and has given to local pastors and youth leaders a Booklet to help you in your youth work. Let's use it effectively. W. S. B.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH

January 24-27, 1957

Lathrop Brethren Church, Lathrop, California

We Worship Together

3. The Symphony of Worship

Rev. H. Francis Berkshire

QUIETLY we slipped upon the campus of the University of Wisconsin a few weeks ago and enjoyed for a few moments the stringed symphony that had been playing.

As we glanced around we could see the glowing faces of proud parents and friends of the musicians. There was an immense appreciation of the music that was being played. Perfect silence ruled when the last note of the orchestra had been played; not a human voice was heard. All stood silently, anticipating the next strains of music that were to be played. Together the violinists would begin, all swaying in one direction, pushing and pulling the bow over the violin strings. The celloists, as though they were cooperating in moving a great boulder, followed their shoulder movements by drawing the larger bow over the strings of the cello. The players of the bass strings hopped up and down the musical scale with their fingers and produced a beautiful harmonizing melody.

As they played together it seemed as thoug each musician felt responsible to help each othe And each one seemed to be conducting anothe symphony player in the spirit of the group. Eac one's body and mind was pledged to the purpos of making Chopin's music meaningful. At th same time, each player responded to the wish of the conductor. There were no leaners in th symphony. The mind of each player was active engaged in following the notes and interpretin them on his instrument.

In the background, we could sense, there ha been much preparation. There had been litt "conductors." But on the final day, the day wh the concert was given, these little conducto bowed down to **the** conductor of the symphon These little conductors individually perform their work. One was responsible for the mus stands, another was responsible for the arrang ment of the chairs, one was responsible for t public address system; each one had his wo

(This is the third in a series of three articles on "The Art of Worship," by Brother Berkshire. Others in the series appeared in the October 20th and November 17th issues of the Evangelist.)

---

to do in preparation for the concert. The entire symphonic concert has been the result of cooperative action.

Ever since the day that I saw and heard this stringed symphony I have likened it to a worship service.

The concept of a worship service for me is much like this concept of the symphonic concert. Worship consists of a fellowship of persons who actively and corporately are united in a common interest. Among the fellowship of persons who are responsible for bringing about a reality in worship experience there is the

PASTOR

He is considered the key person usually, who must lead the movement of the spirit toward God. But he is not God! Rather, the pastor should be considered as one of the "little conductors." But far too often, the pastor (the pulpit) is the center of the worship service! This should not be so. "The center of gravity in the church should be the pew and not alone pulpit," says D. Elton Trueblood. In other words, the pastor is not to be worshiped but a worshiper. Nevertheless, the pastor has the unique task of preparing and guiding the worship service.

In his book "Reality of Worship," Dean Willard L. Sperry wrote:

> "The average minister, beyond picking a scripture lesson and hymn to anticipate his sermon and another hymn to follow the sermon, probably does not give five minutes thought a week to the rest of the service, and has no definite theory as to what is supposed to be happening, and what he is theoretically doing, in conducting public worship."

This is quite condemnatory but possibly true. We who have the primary task of preparing and guiding the worship service dare not be careless in the matter. Isaac Watts calls the worship service "a piece of holy skill" when he urges ministers to be careful about its preparation.

Another phase of this task is the guidance and instruction which the pastor gives to the congregation, choir, organist, and other "little conductors" in preparation for the worship service. The average lay member knows very little concerning the psychology of worship. It is the pastors' lot to instruct each worshiper and worship leader in the proper art of worship. And most worship leaders will accept instruction in worship if it is humbly and reverently given. Among these is the

CONGREGATION

The congregation is the largest group that consists of potential worship leaders. Each individual is a worship leader in the sense that he plays an individual role. He leads the worshiper next to him. If he sings, the worshiper next to him will likely sing. If he does not sing he is embarrassed. If he opens his Bible and follows the Scripture reading, others will follow his example. If one bows his head and prays, a chain reaction may begin. And praise God when it does begin! The congregation will then be fused into one grand fellowship. Each individual will be like a member of the symphony; each playing his part. There will be movement and drama.

Another vital group in the great symphony of worship is the

CHOIR

Choirs are ministers of music. But choirs may defeat their purpose by directing attention to itself instead of to God. An earnest, Christian choir is important to the worship service. Through the singing of hymns and anthems it may light the pathway to God. The hymns of the Wesley's have led many to Christ.

Then too, the function of the choir is to lead the congregation in the singing of hymns. Congregations will sing well if the choir leads well. If the choir shows an appreciation for the music which it is singing, if it sings whole-heartedly and enthusiastically while it leads the congregation, then the congregation will join in singing.

Through the Choir Director, the choir should be consulted in preparation for each worship service. Appropriate music should be chosen. Since singing is a unique part of the Protestant worship service, and also a very vital part, the pastor and musicians should collaborate prayerfully in the matter of its use in the worship service.

Another member of the symphony of the worship service is the

ORGANIST or PIANIST

An alert, skillful organist or pianist may add to the continuity of the worship service. Transitions from hymn singing to Scripture reading to

prayer to sermon, etc., may be blended nicely by appropriate music. Music may call the heart of the worshiper from one mood to another. Such music as the prelude and processional, offertory, or other background music may incite appropriate responses in the heart of the worshiper. For example, the offertory music is not primarily for the purpose of silencing clanging coins but to develop a movement of one's souls toward **spiritual** giving. When the pastor and organist or pianist have fully collaborated in the use of music, a more meaningful association may come to the heart of the worshiper.

Then too, the function of the organist or pianist is to lead the congregation in the singing of hymns. If the organist is lax, out of tempo, or shows signs of uneasiness, the congregation will be lax also, and possibly refrain from singing. The organist or pianist, plays the similar role of the choir and choir director with the pastor; they are like "prompters from the wings."—(Kierkegaard)

Last, but not least in the symphony of worship is the performance of the

USHERS

Ushers perform a dual function in most churches. They serve as "receptionists" and also as "stewards."

As a receptionist they greet the people, distribute literature, receive information for the pastor (new addresses, receive names of those who desire to be visited, etc.), usher people to seats, welcome strangers. In this manner they serve as public relations experts.

Ushers can aid the pastor by teaching the congregation good manners in public worship. The average congregation has far too little regard for proper etiquette in the worship service. One enters the sanctuary while the pastor is praying, another enters during the reading of the Scripture, while another disregards the office of the usher and directs himself to a desirable seat. Then too, the usher can teach silence by refusing to converse with the latecomer. Talking in the vestibule and whispering during the service are bad manners. Older people set the example for the younger. As one little girl quizzed her mother, "Mommy, how old do I have to be before I can begin to whisper in church?" Furthermore, as the pastor's assistants in the worship service, the ushers should study conditions of lighting, heating, ventilation, and care for anything that may bring discomfort to the worshipers. Quietly and reverently they should rectify any discomfort. Carelessness on the part of the ushers may disrupt the continuity of the worship service.

The function of the steward is to care for the offering. With poise, dignity, and friendliness the stewards can enhance the spirit of alms giving. They can make the element of offering a symbolic action of bringing our worldly goods to the altar of God. Out of my childhood experience I recall the exceptional patience which the stewards had for me when they received my small token. They taught me how to carefully hold the offering plate and to pass it. The offering and offertory became highly symbolic and educational. Much of the value of this element of worship may be lost through carelessness on the part of the stewards. To receive the offering reverently is as important and noble as the pastor's preaching and choir's singing.

Let both the work of ushering and that of stewards be done with the ultimate objective of notable service to Christ and the church.

Finis Coronat Opus
(The end crowns the work)

The crowning point of the worship service is when the earthly church meets the Heavenly Church! To this end may we be resolved to worship together. To this end may our worship be centered . . .

> "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing: And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness." (Isaiah 35:5-8)

Lanark, Illinois.

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(MRS.) IDA LINDOWER, Adm. Assistant

TWELVE SUNDAYS UNDER THE FIG TREE

Irven Stern

THE LARGE OLD FIG TREE in Lassa would have many interesting stories to tell if it could talk. For it was given the honor, on the first Sunday in March 1956 of spreading out its large and numerous branches to give shade for the Lassa Christians during the hot season. It was under this tree that we decided to hold our church services while we built a new church in Lassa, Nigeria, West Africa.

The fig tree we are referring to here is quite different from the one that Jesus caused to wither because it bore no fruit. This tree has served the mission and the people of Lassa well. It was around this tree that the buildings of the first hospital in Lassa sprang up. People sat there and dozed while waiting their turn to see the mission doctor. Under this tree some folks have heard, for the first time, about Jesus and about the love of God.

Our Sanctuary

For twelve Sundays during March, April, and May an average of nearly four hundred people gathered under the fig tree to worship God and hear the story of Jesus while they were building their new church. On Palm Sunday the old fig tree witnessed twenty young couples bringing their new babies forward to be dedicated to the Lord. On Easter it witnessed a production of the passion play. On another occasion, it was sorrowful when the body of Lassa's old blind Christian chief was brought here for a funeral. During the construction of the new church, the shade of the fig tree became our sanctuary.

New church needed

Lassa needed a new church. The old church with mud brick walls and a grass roof, was built in the shape of a cross. During its nearly twenty years of use, the termites had eaten their way in and out through the walls. The rain had found its way through the thatched roof and caused sections of the walls to have that washed-out look. Also, on the last Sundays before the church was torn down, the worshippers had become too numerous for the building.

Plans for a new building had been under way for more than a year. Money was accumulating. The big question was when to build the new church. Some folks, including the Nigerian pastor, said we must do it in this dry season, so either a new church or a new thatch roof was necessary before another rainy season.

Launching out on faith

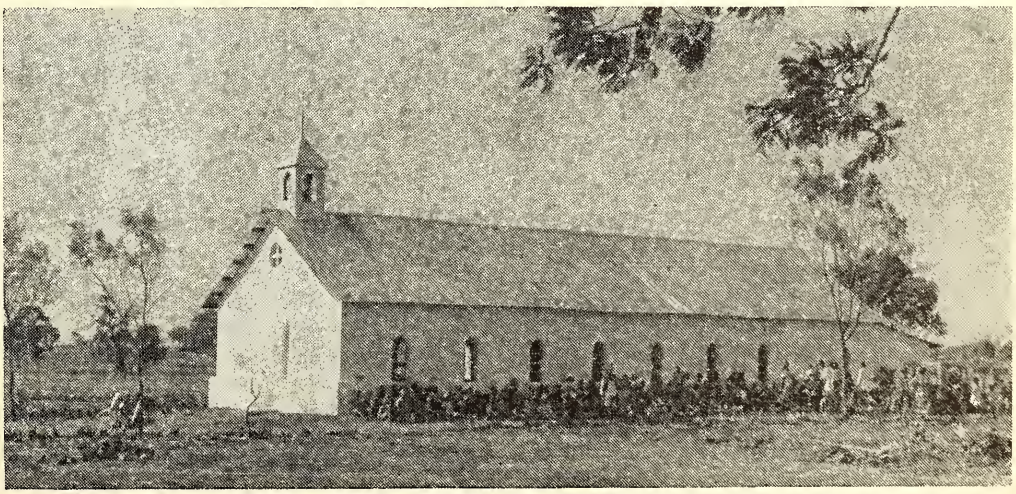
Pressure for the new church mounted as we went further and further into the dry season. Building a church of mud bricks is something that cannot be done in the rains. Although there was not enough money in the treasury to pay for the building, it was decided to launch out on faith to do the job before the rains were due to set in around the first part of May.

About February 28, 200 village people and school children gathered to begin the work of tearing down the old building. The grass from the roof was taken off and much of it sold for rethatching houses in the village. The rafters were carefully stacked and used again in the new church. The mud walls were broken down and mixed with water to be reused in the new church.

"A will to work"

With carefully drawn plans before them, the masons began the work of building the new church. After they had completed the first part of their work, they turned the project over to the carpenters to put on the aluminum roof. When the carpenters finished with the roof, the masons returned to plaster the walls and floor and make the mud benches. All of this time the people of the church and many of the school children helped by carrying bricks, mixing mud, leveling the floor, and working to level the grounds around the church.

(To be continued)



Those who were not able to get into the church for the service gathered in the churchyard and listened through the open windows.

MATTESON BRETHREN CHURCH, Bronson, Michigan, Dedicates new Church on October 14, 1956

(Picture on Page One)

DEDICATORY SERVICES for the new Matteson Brethren Church, Bronson, Michigan, were held Sunday afternoon, October 14, 1956. Estimated attendance for the service was 275, and a Dedicatory offering of $1,522.34 was lifted.

The program, and a brief history of the Matteson work, follow:

DEDICATORY PROGRAM

3:00 P. M.

Lay-Pastor FRED PIPPEN, presiding

Piano Prelude .....Cora Stuckman, Nappanee Brethren Church
Hymn: "How Firm a Foundation"
Invocation .....Rev. Virgil E. Meyer
Vocal Solo .....Mary Crowe, Goshen Brethren Church
Scripture and Prayer (I Cor. 3:9-23) ....Bessie Grove, Brighton Brethren Church
Retrospection .....Claude Oliver, Moderator
Report of Building Committee .....Donald French
In Appreciation .....Fred Pippen
Greetings from our College .....Dr. Glenn L. Clayton
Greetings from our Laymen .....H. D. Hunter
Dedicatory Offering .....Rev. Smith Rose, Pastor, Brighton Brethren Church
Dedicatory Address .....Rev. R. K. Higgins, Pastor, Elkhart Brethren Church
Vocal Solo .....Mary Crowe
Dedication of the Building .....Max Miller, Indiana District Mission Board
Litany of Dedication
Doxology
Prayer of Dedication .....Dr. L. E. Lindower
Hymn: "Faith of Our Fathers"
Benediction .....Walter Lichtenberger

Official Board of the Church: Claude Oliver, Moderator; Burdette Lewis, Vice-Moderator; Fred Pippen, Treasurer; Lillie Pippen, Secretary.

Board of Trustees: Donald French, Merton French, Fred Pippen.

Building Committee: Claude Oliver, Donald French, Fred Pippen.

Retrospection

The Matteson Brethren Church came into being after much consultation, prayer, personal contacts with local people, and consideration with the Brethren Mission Boards. Later a survey of the prospective field was taken. The late Dr. I. D. Bowman, then a semi-retired minister, living at Brighton, Indiana, made a number of suggestions and a plan of procedure. The work was later appealed to the Brethren Mission Boards.

During the Brethren National Conference at Ashland Ohio, in August of 1948, an appeal was placed before the conference. The late Rev. Charles Johnson, then o Cerro Gordo, Illinois, responded by volunteering t surrender his vacation, and hold two weeks of evan gelistic meetings for the community of Matteson.

Forward work, promotion, and publicity was taken care of by Fred Pippen. The use of Matteson Hall wa obtained, and on Sunday morning, October 3, 1948, a 11 o'clock, the first public meeting was held wit fourteen in attendance. The meetings increased in en thusiasm and attendance, as they progressed. The high est attendance reached thirty-seven for one night dur ing the two weeks of meetings. By popular vote a Sun day School was organized, on Sunday morning, Octobe 10, 1948. At the close of the meetings, interested per sons decided to carry on the work, and Fred Pippe was put in charge of the work under the direction o the Mission Board. Meetings were held in the Matteso Center School, in homes, and for the most part in th Matteson Town Hall.

Many ministers and laymen filled the pulpit, fur nished special numbers, and did visiting during th years that followed.

The work operated as a Mission and was financed b offerings and personal gifts the first year. The secon year the Indiana District Mission Board pledged te dollars per week to the work and has continued to th present time. Funds grew as the work progressed.

In May 1949, Rev. S. E. Christiansen obtained month's leave of absence from the Georgetown, Del ware, Brethren Church, and came here to conduct sp cial services, make calls, and build the work in genera Much good came from the efforts of this sincere an spiritual man of God.

In 1954, the Elkhart Brethren Church, under the lea ership of pastor Higgins and moderator Glen Wood pledged the Mission $1,000 per year for five years. Cas and pledges then grew to about $8,500. It was decided t work should be organized and a place of worship erecte

In October of 1954, the work was organized. T meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clau Oliver with the active members present. Also attendi were Rev. Studebaker, Rev. Stewart, Rev. Higgins, Gl Woods and Charles Smith. Claude Oliver became t moderator; Burdette Lewis, vice-moderator; Lillie Pippe Secretary; Fred Pippen, treasurer; Donald French, Me ton French, Fred Pippen, trustees.

Sunday October 7th, 1956 marked the eighth annive sary of the Matteson Brethren Church.

CENTRAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE REPORT

The Central District Conference was held in Udell, Iowa, September 27 to 30. The Conference theme was "Our Church: a Spiritual House." Conference text: I Peter 2:5.

The conference was presided over by the moderator, Rev. Wilbur Thomas. Sermons enjoyed through the conference were: "Bible Study and the Spiritual Life" by Rev. Francis Berkshire; "Central District and the Spiritual Life" by Moderator; "The Unfolding of the Spiritual Life," Rev. A. T. Ronk, Vice Moderator. "Prayer and the Spiritual Life" by Rev. Lyle Albright and "Outside Activities and the Spiritual Life" by Rev. G. T. Ronk.

National Organizations were represented by Dr. Clayton for the College, J. E. Stookey for the Publishing House, Phil Lersch for Brethren Youth, Harlan Hollowell for Foreign and Home Missions. Russel Rodkey gave some facts on Benevolent Work. Mrs. Russell Rodkey, National W. M. S. president, spoke Friday afternoon and it was open to all.

Other than the committee reports and regular elections the most outstanding business was that the Camp Committee in the district in charge of all camps, be in charge of the pastors of the District with the District Sunday School board delegated as a counselling body of advisors.

Next year's Conference will be at Lanark, Illinois, with Rev. A. T. Ronk as Moderator.

Mrs. Loretta Metzger, Secretary.

WILL YOUR WATCH NIGHT SERVICE BE ON THE REVIVAL LEVEL?

"And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."—Rev. 22:12.

WE LIVE in times when souls are more exposed to danger than at any previous period of church history. One needs to read only a few passages on the state of the church at the end of this age to come to this conclusion. "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time" (I John 2:18). "In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof . . . ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith" (II Tim. 3:1-8 see verses 13-17).

No exposition of the above is necessary. Every thoughtful Christian (and especially pastors of churches) know definitely how difficult it is to bring the people of God to walk in "newness of life" so that the power of Christ might rest upon them, and that out from the Word of God in power might awaken, convict, and convert multitudes. The enemy has come in "like a flood," but the Lord will, upon the repentance and obedience of His people, "lift up a standard against him." The times are difficult, but God is mightier than all the principalities and powers of hell.

Let us turn to God, fellow ministers and Christians, on this Watch Night, as did Wesley and Whitefield and their brethren in the days of spiritual decadence, in 1739, when on the last night of that year, God began to revive His work in what is now known as "THE GREAT AWAKENING." He is the God of the PRESENT, as of the past. He will hear still, and answer grandly, the prayers of right-living people.

The Kind of Revival We Need

It must be "a work of God," effected by the Spirit, in keeping with the Word. And if it is such a work of God, it will have its usual marks. "Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants. O satisfy us early with thy mercy that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it" (Psalm 90:13-17).

Preparations for Watch Night

Let ministers who long for a spiritual awakening among their people observe the counsel given in Proverbs 16:1 and in I Timothy 4:16. The following pertinent suggestions may be of some value: Enter into God's presence with praise and thanksgiving. Meditate on Scriptures appropriate to the need for revival. Face up to the spiritual state of God's people. Consider the world situation. Take a glimpse at the cause of God on mission fields. Pray in the Spirit for the kind of revival wanted by the Spirit. End grandly with a song of faith, hope, and love. Expect God to give you a blessed New Year.

—Great Commission Prayer League, Inc.

News From Our Churches

NEW PARIS, INDIANA

Dr. John F. Locke, of Maurertown, Va., came to assist the New Paris Church in an intensive effort for souls from October 28th to November 4th. It was his first trip to New Paris. He was well received by all. His stirring, interesting messages carried the message of the Word to all who heard him. Through them he won the approval of the church and the community.

Seven precious souls were baptized and received into membership of the church.

It was a long distance to call a man from his home, loved ones and churches but he was willing. No one in New Paris regrets it. During the first prayer meeting of this year (1956) a suggestion was made that we pray for 10 souls to be added to the Lord and the Church this year. The goal has been realized. Ten have been baptized and received into full membership during the year. We shall pray and strive for no less next year.

Our prayers and good wishes for the entire church during the New Year.

E. M. Riddle.

ABUNDANT LIFE CAMPAIGN HELD AT ASHLAND, OHIO

November 12-18

It was my privilege to be the evangelist for an "Abundant Life Campaign" in the Park Street Brethren Church at Ashland, Ohio.

During the meeting we had 22 decisions. Five came forward for their first time confession of Christ, and seventeen came to the altar to rededicate their lives in a closer walk with God. During this week the evangelist gave a series of messages over Radio Station WATG. It was also a thrilling experience to present a message at the Ashland College (my Alma Mater) Chapel service.

The weather was unusually mild for the month of November, making it possible for the excellent attendance. We were pleased to see so many young people at the meeting. The evangelist gave magical messages for the children each evening. Special delegations representing the various auxiliaries of the College, Seminary, and Church were present each night. Near-by churches also sent delegations from time to time during the campaign.

Here in Ashland we have Brethren who have been cultured through the years with excellent leadership and who are very generous in their expression of appreciation. Bringing the gospel to these Brethren was indeed a pleasure.

The campaign was very well promoted under the direction of several committees and the pastor. The Evangelistic Committee was composed of Mrs. Charles Munson, Dr. Glenn Clayton and Mrs. Owen Smith. The newspaper of the city carried reports of the campaign, and the people were informed of the meeting by a personal letter and cards.

Music under the capable direction of Mrs. Leo Jones who was song leader and director of the Senior Choir was an outstanding feature at every service. Rev. Phillip Lersch was assistant song leader. Special musical features provided each night were well chosen and rendered very effectively. Mrs. Phillip Lersch assisted by Rev. St. Clair Benshoff and Mrs. Richard Kuns provided beautiful music at the organ and piano. An excellent Junior Choir under the direction of Mr. Richard Kuns sang at the worship services.

During the meeting I lived in the new beautiful parsonage, and every kindness was extended to me by Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Fairbanks and family. Rev. Fairbanks is certainly a very busy man. He is the Editor for our Brethren Youth Sunday School lessons, and has a special column in the Laymen's paper called "The Parson's Corner," as well as making further studies in higher education. Calling was done during the meeting and some splendid results were observed from these personal contacts.

Again I want to thank the pastor and his family for their par-excellent hospitality and the joy of serving Jesus with them. Many thanks also to those who were so kind in preparing sumptuous meals for the evangelist and pastor, everyone who performed special services, and all who attended so faithfully. I want to extend my appreciation to President Clayton and Dean Flora for their complete cooperation in the campaign in clearing the evening college and seminary schedule during the week. I also want to express my gratitude to the Park Street Church for the very generous love offering. May our dear Lord richly bless everyone of you and prosper you in His work. I shall long remember the spiritual fellowship of the Ashland Brethren.

Evangelist J. D. Hamel, South Bend

Jer. 33:3.

FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA

The Falls City Church is doing well with one Sunday School Class organized for the new year. It has been several years since we have had a class for those between the young married people and the older (King's Servants) class people and we were glad for it. There were thirteen in it Sunday. There were six delegates from Falls City, two from Morrill, Kansas and one from Carleton all going in the Falls City cars. We had a good District Conference, though not too large .

Falls City and Morrill both like their pastor and wife who have been with us for one year in October.

He has given us some new things to do or think about as our two churches has given him. There are some new things here in the Mid-west that one who has preached all his life in the east must get used to and there are some things in the east an easterner has to give us but if both sides put their minds to these things they get

along well. It is all done with true Brethren Doctrine with no side issues brought in.

We all hope that as we are getting used to each other that our churches will grow and do better.

This district lost two good ministers and gained only one so far.

Mary E. Rieger, Secretary.

LOST CREEK, KENTUCKY

On October 8th Rev. W. A. Thomas of North Liberty, Ind., came to us for a twelve day meeting. The weather was very nice for the meetings, the crowds were good and steady, of course there was the usual lack of the unsaved who did not come so much, but all and in all the attendance was very good. It was altogether a very good revival meeting.

Bro. Thomas and the writer visited quite extensively the first days of the meeting which always is fruitful for the Lord. We visited practically every home in this immediate community. The meetings were a spiritual uplift for the church here. There were an even thirty decisions for the Lord, fifteen first time, and the other reconsecrations.

Brother Thomas was indeed a fine yokefellow to work with. His leadership of the meetings, in the singing, and then his real Gospel messages, was very good, and effective.

He also brought along with him a Brother in the North Liberty Church, Elder Merl Shoemaker, who was also a real help in the services. The fellowship in all was very fine, and their work was a real uplift to the community and the church.

G. E. Drushal.

MY DIARY

Mrs. George Drushal

Sept. 20. Thurs. Full day as usual. Mrs. Ratley helped me in the clothing room. At our Bible class at Landrums, we finished the last chapter of Ephesians, and had quite a discussion as to what book to study next. Some wanted to take up another New Testament book, some one of the Old Testament. One said, "Let's take Genesis." Another replied "I never could get interested in the Old Testament and sure don't want to study Genesis." We said to ourselves it was time to get interest aroused in the O. T., so we said "Why not try about five chapters in Genesis for five weeks, and if we don't like it, we'll change to something else." All agreed. We know they'll all like it. To Rowdy tonight. Mr. Teed gave the message and Mrs. Allen led the singing as Papa's throat was sore.

Sept. 21. Fri. Ronks brought their new baby home last night. We all went up to see it tonight. It's a pretty little thing. Had two ball games this afternoon with Oakdale. Their boys won, and our girls won. The girl's game was really funny. This is the week end most of the students go home. All went but two girls and two boys. Adah got Don to drive her to Frankfort to see the State High-school inspector about our problem of teacher shortage. Children are beginning to go to the paw-paw patch and coming in with big luscious ones. They bring some to us. We know summer is over now, when the paw-paws are ripe.

Sept. 22. Sat. Adah reported good news from Frankfort. They will accept our school on an accredited basis and permit us to use those who are available even though they are not college graduates, on account of the great scarcity of teachers in the State. They will accept our extra help on an emergency basis. This enables us to use Mr. Teed for Manual Training, and we might be able to find one more such. Papa climbed the hill to the paw-paw patch and brought down a big bag full of nice ripe ones. Said he wanted the fun of picking them off the tree himself. He shared with the children who have been bringing them down to us. He then spent the afternoon visiting, and made a business trip to Jackson. Mrs. Branson and Mrs. Combs called this afternoon. I spent most of forenoon going over the office books. Mrs. Ratley took advantage of children being gone and not having much cooking to do and she and the two girls who were here really went after things in the dormitory, cleaning cupboards, painting and fixing things up in general. Papa preached at Haddix tonight. Good attendance and good attention. I was afraid he would be completely tired out after his busy day, topping it off with hill-climbing for paw-paws, then preaching tonight, but he says he isn't. Notice on wall chart at Haddix that attendance there each week, is a few more than last.

Sept. 23. Sun. Sunday schools here and at Rowdy preparing for Promotion Day. After Church this afternoon, we went up to Home Place Hospital and visited some of the patients who are members of our Outpost Sunday schools. On way home called on another child who is sick. After supper, went up to see Henry Fields to see if he would preach for us tonight as Bro. Jackson is sick. He came and preached a fine sermon. Decided to buy new hymn books for S. S. here. Papa explained to the church the $10.00 Club, insisting that we get new members. He also made a plea for more of our folks to back up the Building work.

Wedding Announcement

OYSTER-LAMB. The wedding of Miss Addie Ilene Oyster to William Lamb, both of Louisville, took place at the Brethren Church, Louisville, Ohio, Thanksgiving afternoon before a group of relatives. The pastor performed the ceremony. Addie Ilene is a music teacher in the East Canton school. Mr. Lamb is manager of the Lamb's Auto Supply Co., in Canton. Both are active members of the Brethren Church in Louisville. Mrs. Lamb is a member of the Music committee of the church and assistant organist. They will reside in their new home near Freeburg, on State route 153.

L. V. King.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

"ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY"

Angels from the Realms of Glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King."

NOT ONLY THE PROPHETS, but also the angels were much concerned about the coming Salvation (1 Peter 1:10-12). Thus an angel appeared to Zacharias to tell of the birth of the forerunners of Christ (Luke 1:10-17). And thus the Angel Gabriel appeared to announce the miraculous conception of the Son of God to the virgin Mary (Luke 1:26-38). Then an angel of the Lord appeared unto Joseph, who was engaged to Mary (Matt. 1:20, 21). The angel of the Lord, accompanied by a choir of angels, announced the birth of Christ to the Judean shepherds (Luke 2:7-20). The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in dreams relative to the guardianship of the Christ-child (Matt. 2:13, 19, 20).

"The Angel's song of 'Peace on Earth,'
Announcing Christ the Savior's birth,
Is still the song of 'peace' and 'grace'
Unto a lost and sinful race."

In all their ministrations in connection with the Christmas event the angels sought to allay all fear in their audiences (Luke 1:13, 30; Matt. 1:20; Luke 2:10). Angels continued to show their deep concern in salvation by ministering to Christ after the temptation in the wilderness (Mark 1:13), and after His agonizing prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22:43). An angel appeared to triumphantly roll the stone from the door of the tomb on resurrection morning (Matt. 28:2). Angels witnessed His ascension to Heaven (Acts 1:10, 11).

Angels are defined in Hebrews 1:14. They number many millions (Rev. 5:11). The angels are immortal (Luke 20:36). At the end of this world the angels will be the reapers (Matt. 13:39), and shall sever the wicked from the just (v. 49). All the "holy angels" will accompany Christ on His return to earth (Matt. 25:31).

We are not to worship angels (Col. 2:18). We shall judge fallen angels (1 Cor. 6:3). Fallen angels are reserved for judgment (Jude 6). Evil angels are bent upon harm (Psalm 78:49), but the angels of God are our guardians (Psalm 34:7; 2 Kings 6:16, 17). Angels showed their concern for our salvation in Jacob's dream in which Christ bridges the gulf between earth and Heaven (Gen. 28:12).

We are assured that angels show their concern for the little ones (Matt. 8:10). Angels befriended the needy Hagar (Gen. 21:17-19), and the prophet Elijah (1 Kings 19:5-8). An angel accompanied and also led Abraham's servant (Gen. 24:7, 40). An angel befriended the imprisoned apostles (Acts 5:19, 20), and Peter in answer to prayer (Acts 12:5-11). Angels conveyed the soul of Lazarus, a saved beggar, to Abraham's bosom (Luke 16:22). Evidently angels are offended when God's people do wrong (1 Cor. 11:10), and will even attempt to block man's waywardness (Num. 22:31, 32). Angels share in Christ's joy (Heb. 12:2) in seeing souls saved (Luke 15:7). No wonder angels shared their Christmas joy with men (Luke 2:10-15).

"We did not see the crowded inn
Or pause beside the manger bed
Or hear above the stable's din
The words of joy the angels said.
We did not gladly go along
With shepherds on that holy night
Or see the star or hear the song
Or see the angels clad in white.
But we can make our hearts an inn,
That once were vile as stable beds,
And we can still the rabble's din
With quiet peace that calms our dreads.
By faith we yet may go along
To Bethlehem some holy night
And mingle with the angel throng
Our hymns of love and peace and light."

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson

Lesson for December 23, 1956

THE WORD BECOMES FLESH

Lesson: John 1:1-18

"ONE THING I've found out about Christmas is tha whatever you do, or wherever you live, you can as people what they would like for Christmas and nine time out of ten the answer is the same. They'll want some thing material.

"At first, this discovery merely had me amused. Bu not any longer. In fact, it greatly irritates me and I wis that something could be done about it. Why? Becaus I'm one of those fortunate few who can buy almost any thing they want . . . and I've found it isn't so importan after all.

"The one thing I'd really like for Christmas is 'peac in every meaning of the word . . . peace of mind, peac of soul, the kind of peace you have when you don't wan anything."

The above was spoken by Dave Garroway, the T. V performer. Whatever you may think about this individu you will doubtless agree he has given us a gem of wi dom. It would do well for us all at this season of th year to think on these things. Our minds are turned the giving and receiving of gifts. What do we real want for Christmas? Do we think simply upon that whi

is material? Or do we long for that which silver and gold cannot buy?

God's Christmas Gift to a lost and dying world was in the form of a spiritual gift. Yet His Gift was a Person—His Son, the LORD JESUS CHRIST! Christ was given but **once.** But the results are **perpetual!**

Jesus Christ is referred to by John as the Logos ("Word"). The Greeks spoke of the Logos as meaning "the divine word or reason, immanent and dynamic in the cosmic process. The early Christian thinkers came along and took up that word **Logos,** and used it to express their idea that Jesus Christ was the pre-existent creator and the incarnate Redeemer of all men."

Christ existed "in the beginning" with God. In fact, says John, He "was God." In order that He might come down to help sinful men, Christ "was made flesh, and dwelt among us."

What did His coming mean to men? Was He able to help lost humanity? Christ longed to help all men, but not all would receive Him. "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name" (vs. 12).

The message of Christmas, then, is this. Men who are lost in sin—ungodly men—corrupt, evil men—good, moral men—may be transformed into Sons of the Living God by receiving Jesus Christ and believing on His name!

"O God our Heavenly Father, grant unto us at this Christmas Season Thy Peace. Give us hearts that desire the spiritual rather than the material. May the One who became flesh and dwelt among men dwell within our hearts and lives. In His Holy Name we pray. Amen."

Sunday School Suggestions

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARY

SUNDAY SCHOOLS EVERYWHERE, even very small ones, are starting libraries or building up the libraries they have. With the huge amount of Christian literature on the market, no one can afford to neglect the benefits of selected reading. This is so important that it is a part of the "Standard of Excellence for Brethren Sunday Schools." (See the **Brethren Evangelist** of December 1.)

Organization

Set up a Library Committee to build up interest in the project and guide it in the future. The committee should recruit a suitable librarian and one or two assistants.

The librarian must possess a good character, love for books, patience, and enjoyment of careful work. A good education, typing ability, and poster-making skill are helpful.

A manual such as **Church Library Handbook** by LaVose A. Wallin is useful in guiding the librarian and the committee. Public librarians also are generally glad to give advice.

Location

Whether you start with a single shelf or a whole room, be sure it is convenient, attractive, and well lighted. It should be readily accessible but out of traffic.

Equipment and Supplies

Essential equipment includes shelves—preferably open —8 inches deep by 11 inches high; a suitable desk or table for the librarian; a modest supply cabinet; and a bulletin board.

Basic supplies are rubber dating stamp and pad, card pockets and cards, date slips, paste and brush, and bookplates.

How to Get Books

1. **Library Day.** Designate one Sunday on which each family or member will be encouraged to present a volume in honor of some loved one. A strong incentive for giving such books is the fact that the names of the person honored and the donors will be inscribed on a bookplate in the front of the book. Essential to this is a list of books desired. This list (with prices) should be prepared by the Library Committee in consultation with the librarian.

2. **Memorials.** Books appropriately inscribed make an excellent memorial. Many families go so far as to request that memorial books be presented instead of flowers. Books given as memorials should be temporarily displayed where everyone may look them over and read the names of the donors on the bookplates.

3. **Special Days.** Adult classes may ask that each member bring a book for the library on the Sunday following his birthday. Mother's Day and Father's Day present good occasions for people to honor their parents and further their ideals.

4. **A Standing List.** Keep always on the library bulletin board a short list (with prices) of interesting new books which the library needs, and invite members to present them. Recommendations may be obtained from The Sunday School Board, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio.—**Adapted.**

January 18, 19, 20, 1957

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

IF YOU LOVE HIM WHY NOT SERVE HIM?

Miss Julia King

It has been almost ten years since I sat around the blazing campfire at Camp Shipshewana, watching the leaping flames illumine the darkness of the night, while we lifted our young voices in song together. Yet the words of "Jacob's Ladder" and many other of our favorite camp songs echo clearly in my mind. It was there on that silent hillside that the meaning of these words began to grow in my life. There I caught a clearer vision of the Light which leads eternally.

This summer as I stood around our campfire in the little town of Alten Buseck, Germany, one Sunday evening, I could not help but recall the many happy memories of similar experiences back home. But this was so different! Our international work camp was surely the talk of the town from the very moment we twenty-four foreigners arrived. Tula, our Swedish representative, with her bright blonde hair strikingly contrasted the black skin of Allie, our southern Negro representative. Thus we were, full of variety in looks, temperament, and representing eleven different countries, living and working together in Germany for five weeks. The German people of our village greeted us warmly with the typical German handshake as we labored daily with the young men of the village, helping to build a YMCA youth freetime home. They sat at their windows and greeted us with "Guten Tag" as we walked to and from work each day.

Yet we had no idea that an American picnic and campfire would attract so much attention. We planned the evening simply, hoping to share our American culture with our international friends and the German YMCA group. It was to our utter amazement that the people of the town started arriving. The children gobbled down our marshmellows in no time—they were the first marshmellows they had ever eaten. Before long a crowd of three hundred had gathered, standing closely around our blazing campfire in order that the heat of the fire might penetrate the cool dampness of the German climate. Here we stood for several hours sharing songs from our different homelands in our various languages until finally in closing we formed a huge circle to sing with the Germans "Kein Schoener Land." Another memorable campfire had been burned upon my memory.

This is just one of the unforgettable memories from a summer full of rich experiences. It was my opportunity to travel in Europe this past summer under the auspices of the Brethren Service Commission. This organization, operated by the Church of the Brethren, seeks to render service to those in need and witness through a positive, active program of love. Our tour took us through France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and Austria, where we saw the program in action in many places

(The picture above was taken last summer in an International Workcamp in Alten-Buseck, Germany. Left to Right—Julia King (U. S.), Vim (Holland), Charley (France), Silvio and Gulio (Italy), and Antonio (Portugal).

where young volunteers were spending their two years of service by working in the reconstruction of war areas or with refugees.

Work Camping is just one area of the BSC program in Europe. But why work camping, you ask? What is the value of digging trenches and laying foundations? I wondered too as I suddenly became aware of "new" muscles in a most painful way and blisters started forming on my hands. It isn't long before one faces reality in such a situation. Yet as we worked together and the walls started forming, barriers began to break down between nations and personalities. We were building together, and as the walls went up the evidence built a firmer foundation by cementing our friendships with one another.

As John from Greece told us about the Cyprus problem, we listened more carefully. The problems of Egypt became alive as Onci explained his country's situation in the world. The tensions of the world became vitally important as our friends told us about their own country. At the same time we were seeking to understand and love one another, not always successfully at that. Yet as we bowed our heads in worship at the close of our evening meal our differences were melted as we sought the Will of God together. The true meaning of "In Christ There Is No East or West" became alive within our group.

The opportunity is yours also, you who sing "Jacob's Ladder." The needs are limitless on our own country as well as abroad—"If you love Him, why not serve Him? . . . "

(Ed note—Miss Julia King is a member of the Goshen Indiana, Brethren Church, having attended Camp Shipshewana for several years. I can remember her fine Christian spirit as a fellow camper and know that it has been a part of her through these years. Many thanks to her for sharing her experiences in an International Work Camp with us. If any of you readers would be interested in such an experience, write to Brethren Youth, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio for information. You'll never regret it!)

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE

Scripture: St. Matthew 16:26

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the world, and lose his own soul?" Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

CHRISTMAS is a blessed time of sharing. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." As we open our gift exchange this year, let us open our hearts to God's gift of eternal love for each one of us.

So many gifts do not fit, or do not bring pleasure to the receiver. So the great trip begins, back to the merchandise counters to make the exchange—to seek something more desirable.

Have you ever wondered just what you are exchanging your Christmas Tree for? If your Christmas Tree will be a symbol of your Faith in Him, who came to bring beauty to this drab world, then there will be no problem of exchange. For that same Christ will be, "As a tree planted by the river of living water" to you, bringing peace and good will to all men all the year through.

When you remove the Star from your Tree, what will you exchange it for? Will it be exchanged for a brighter hope, born anew in our hearts? Yes, let us exchange it for a spirit of God's Love for the world. Have you ever stopped to compare your life with what it might be with no Star in the world? The Christmas story minus the shepherds, wise men, babe in the manger, becomes pointless and disorganized, without the Star. The Star is the centerpiece of the entire scene. Unless the Star and the Manger are exchanged for Faith in that which it symbolizes, then, "God so loved the world," becomes only an abstract philosophy.

We never quite understand that "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Truly, it is, God with us, when we look upon the babe lying in the manger. What can you exchange Him for? With the disciples of old we must recognize that He alone hath the words of eternal life. There is salvation in no other name given among men. So the glory of Christmas is much more than these figures and exchangeable things.

"For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" The souls of men belong to God, For God created man, and breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life. And with that breath of God, man became a living soul. It is the one thing beyond man's power to exchange.

"Whosoever will save his life shall lose it, and whosoever will lose his life for my sake, shall find it." The darkness of this world can be exchanged for the love of God ringing in our hearts. The joy of a growing faith in a Saviour, that came to save us from sin.

Let the love of Christ in us bring Heavenly Joy into our hearts and lives; without Christ in our hearts, Christians have no real Christmas. Let us resolve to celebrate Christ's birthday, by giving Him first place in our worship, homes and lives. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

We too can glorify God this Christmas by focusing our thoughts, our actions, and our lives upon our Lord Jesus Christ, in the radiance and beauty of Christmastide.

Mrs. R. K. Higgins,
Elkhart, Indiana.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

ONCE MORE WE FIND ourselves in the midst of a wonderful season of Peace and Good Will, when we celebrate the birthday of Christ, our Lord. Surely our hearts should be filled with happiness and joy in His service as we think of God's unspeakable gift to the world. As Christians, we should be moved to a more zealous service for others in the name of Christ. There are so many lovely things that people think of doing in December which spread good will and cheer to others. This month would be a fine time to visit the sick and sing carols for them, to read the Scriptures and pray for them. That means giving of your time—something more precious than money can buy. You can scarcely realize how much the sick appreciate your kind deeds and thoughtful words. Time passes very slowly for a shut-in!

Christmas is a time of Faith and Hope, and stands for the overflowing Love of God as expressed by the gift of His only begotten Son to a world of human kind. What then can we give to Him? No matter how simple our gifts, they are blessed if given in the spirit of love and self-forgetfulness. The wise men gave valuable things, not because they were valuable, but because they were what they had and they wanted to give their best. The shepherds had no gold, frankincense or myrrh, but they gave themselves. There is no greater gift that we can give to Him—than ourselves and our devoted service for others in His name.

Our happiness multiplies when we share it with others! There are many people who need material help and since God has blessed us so bountifully, let us share of our surplus. God tells us that even those who give a cup of cold water in His name will be blessed. Thousands of people throughout the world are destitute and homeless because of the ravages of war and famine at this Christmas season. So let us read God's Word and learn of His way for us and then go out to SHARE it with others throughout the world.

As glory shown that night within the sheltering stable wall,
The gentle Babe of Bethlehem was born the Lord of all;
And may the love He brought to earth to guide us on our way,
Bless each of you with happiness this joyous Christmas Day.

Mrs. J. Milton Bowman,
Falls, City, Nebraska.

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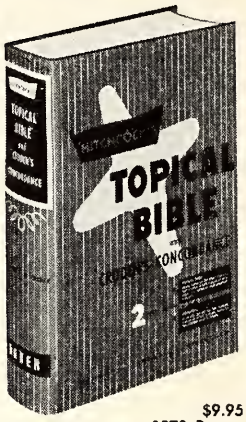

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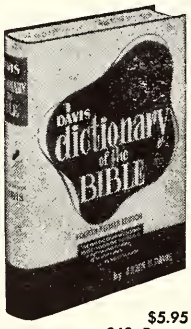

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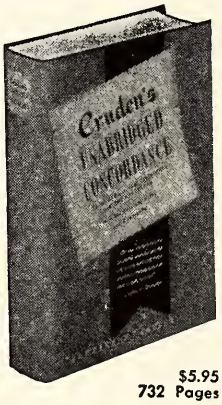

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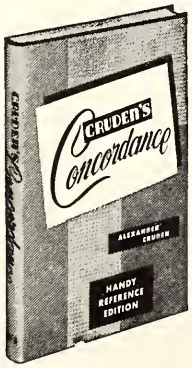

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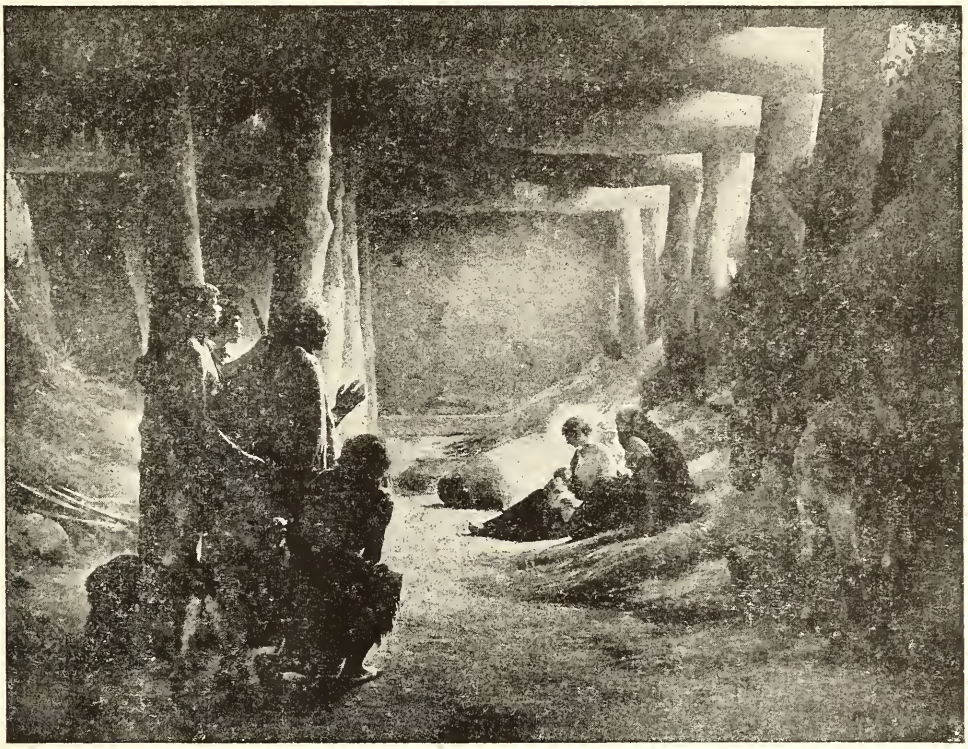
The Arrival of the Shepherds



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

LATHROP, CALIFORNIA **January 24-27, 1957**

Rev. C. Y. Gilmer, Moderator

VOL. LXXVIII December 22, 7956 No. 50

Proclaiming the WHOLE GOSPEL, for the WHOLE WORLD

Items of General Interest

SARASOTA, FLORIDA. Brother Lyle Lichtenberger was the devotional speaker over radio station WSPB during the third week of November. The program was broadcast twice daily.

A Teacher Training Class has been started in the Sarasota church.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Eight new members have been baptized and received into the church.

The Laymen's public service was held on November 4th.

The Washington bulletin notes an attendance of 141 in Sunday School on November 11th. This was a gain of 35 over a year ago.

JOHNSTOWN, PENNA. THIRD BRETHREN. An attendance of "about 50" is reported for a recent Wednesday evening Family Night service.

NEW LEBANON, OHIO. A letter from Brother John T. Byler carries the comment that the outside work on their new church addition is all done, heat is in the building, and Sunday School classes have been meeting in the new building for several weeks. The bulk of the finishing work yet remains to be done, with tiling of the floor and the plastering being the present activity. An Easter dedication date appears probable.

BRYAN, OHIO. Brother Alvin Grumbling, in his weekly news letter to his congregation, notes: "Our parking lot is now finished . . . this is the last of our building program . . . in the past two years we have expanded our facilities on this corner for better service to the community and for the Lord. Our cost has been around $40,000." The Bryan building program included relocation of the parsonage, a Sunday School addition and adequate parking area.

ROANN, INDIANA. Arriving too late for advance announcement was the note concerning the ordination of William E. Boyer on December 16th. Brother Boyer is a member of the Roann Church, attended Manchester College and Ashland Seminary and taught for two years at Lost Creek, Kentucky. (We hope to have a full report of the ordination service soon. Ed.)

WARSAW, INDIANA. Brother Robert Holsinger was "Moments of Meditation" speaker over WRSW the week of December 10th.

GOSHEN, INDIANA. Eight were baptized and receiv into the full fellowship of the church on November 25

OAKVILLE, INDIANA. One new member was receiv by baptism recently.

MUNCIE, INDIANA. We quote from the Muncie b letin: "Our pastor is steadily improving." (We urge t brotherhood to continue prayer for Brother Black as continues to improve. Ed.)

LOREE, INDIANA. The Loree Brethren accepted t invitation of the Peru Brethren to worship with th the evening of December 2nd. Pastor Horace Huse, Loree, brought the message.

NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA. Brother Hen Bates notes that Sunday school average attendance w 229.6 per week, which topped the previous November r ord of 213 recorded in 1955.

TUCSON, ARIZONA. Brother Carl Grove, who is te porarily ministering to the Brethren in Phoenix, was t speaker in the Tucson church on November 11th wh Pastor Vernon D. Grisso was speaking to the Phoe Brethren.

COMING EVENTS

LOREE, INDIANA. Evangelistic Services—Decemb 26 through January 6th—Rev. Horace Huse, Pastor a Speaker.

NO EVANGELIST NEXT WEEK

In keeping with our mailing permit, the EVANGELI will not be published next week. The next issue will dated January 5, 1957. In this issue, we are bringing y "double portions" of our Prayer Meeting and Sund School Lesson Comments, so that you will not lose on material for your weekly Prayer Meeting Bible Stud and Sunday School Lessons.

Incidentally, this is the last regular 16 page Bretl Evangelist. As previously announced, the Brethren Pul cation Board voted to increase the size of the EVA GELIST to 20 pages beginning with the first issue 1957. Subscription price of the enlarged publication $2.00 per year, except 100% Churches which will be $1 per year for each subscription.

THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST

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The Editor's Pulpit

Peace For The New Year

HE "PRINCE OF PEACE" was born on Christmas Day. Yet, nineteen and one-half centuries later, peace" is still an elusive thing.

Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, spoke to is disciples about peace. Yet, today, many of His so-lled followers do not possess peace at heart.

At the close of this calendar year of 1956, cannot we sk ourselves the question, "Why this lack of peace?"

Cannot the Christian Church profitably spend some me in discovering why, after 1900 years of the Spirit the Prince of Peace, we seem to have so little of it?

Jesus was living in treacherous and troubled times. ar, bloodshed, political upheavals—jealousy, hatred and rsecution were everywhere. His words, at that last pper, were certainly a portrayal of the inner longing men's hearts for peace.

How was peace to come? Peter, that night, tried to aintain peace through use of the sword, and was re-ked by the Prince of Peace. Today, we are striving to eep the peace of the world" at astronomical cost in llars and manpower. This, to prevent World War III, hich, we are told, would cost in the neighborhood of OUR TRILLION DOLLARS!

What did Jesus say about peace on the night which eceded earth and heaven's greatest struggle?—Jesus ing the supreme Person in the conflict. John 14:27 gives our answer: "Peace I leave with you, my peace give unto you."

Where were you when Jesus was giving out His peace? ere you in the "Upper Room" with Him, and was your art filled with His peace so that in today's conflicts u have that "inner peace?" Or did Judas and the con-ving enemies of Jesus have company that night as you ined them and filled your heart with antagonisms, ubts, hatreds, etc.?

Is your soul, at this year's end, filled with "love, joy, ace—" because you have spent this year in His won-rful fellowship and presence? Has the turmoil and rife of a "world-spawned-peace" lost its hold on you you learned the secret of Jesus' words, "Let not your art be troubled, neither let it be afraid."?

The Christian Church in its contribution to the pres-vation of civilization must recognize that peace comes, t in things and implements, but in the transformation the heart from its inherent evil to one of overflow-g Christian graces through the power of Christ. A heart that is not at peace with God, will not be at peace with himself, his family, his fellow-church members, his nation, his fellow-nations.

A careful analysis of the basic cause of unrest among family members, church members, community and national citizens, will reveal hearts in which there is unrest—where the peace of God has not fully come, in some cases, not at all.

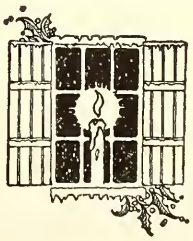
If the Church wants peace, it must begin at home. Hearts must find peace with God, which will include surrender of selfish ambitions, hatreds, pride and "long memories." Church members who "haven't spoken to each other for years," much less worked together in the church —must surrender their personal feelings, and enter fully into that fellowship with Christ which says, "One is your Master, and all ye are brethren."

Until we can do that, and give thusly to the world an effective Christian witness, how can we expect the nations to lay down their arms? Until then, we are only kidding ourselves on this matter of peace.

With the new year of 1957 already badly battle-scarred even before its birth, it is time for the Church member to do some sober and serious thinking. Our churches have a great opportunity to show men the way to peace if peace reigns within our midst, in our own hearts.

Between now and the first of the new year would be an excellent time to examine our own hearts. There might be a few letters to write, a few calls to make. There may be a few tears of reconciliation to shed—but if it brings peace between us and God, between members of families, between church members, and, between nations as the Christian influence is shed abroad—then, it will be all worthwhile.

Where does it all start? By being in the sacred fellowship of Christ when He says, "My peace give I unto thee." Enriching that blessed fellowship in our own lives is the answer. W. S. B.



TIME

Considered and Improved

I Corinthians 7:29a: "But this I say, brethren, the time is short."

EACH ONE OF US will admit that of all the commodities which we daily use, time is in its essence the most precious. During time of war and other national emergencies we are often confronted with the inconvenience of rationing. Time has always been rationed. None of us has more than twenty-four hours in the day and only God can say how many days are allotted to us.

Even though we all admit the preciousness of time how few of us act under the influences this preciousness should be calculated to produce. Time is so rare and valuable that God only intrusts it to us moment by moment, and the possession of even another moment is of the utmost uncertainty. Since we admit that time is so precious, let us subscribe to the truth of the text, embody its design in our experience, and exhibit it in our practice. In this text there is a solemn and momentous truth expressed, a chain of practical inferences deduced, and an impressive and forcible application made.

"Brethren, the time is short." If we are to consider time in its extended course from the creation to the present period it is indeed short when viewed through the medium of the immutable mind of the Deity, with whom "a thousand years are but as one day"; or when contrasted with the unmeasured and boundless eternity. Someone has said that if eternity were compared to a twenty-four hour day then from the time of creation until now would be less than a second. However, you can see the fallacy of this as there is nothing with which we can compare eternity. Eternity is beyond the grasp of o finite minds. I feel sure that the text rather refers the time of human life—the period of our existence up earth. It refers to that which is the limit of man's pr bation, and the only seedtime in which he can sow for golden harvest of immortal blessing. Viewed as such o time is short when contrasted with the lives of those the antediluvian world. During that period there is no a count of the death of any in childhood or youth. Ma whose lives are recorded lived to a very extended ag Adam lived nine hundred and thirty years. Seth lived ni hundred and twelve years. Methusalah lived nine hundr and sixty-nine years. How greatly abbreviated is hum existence now. Truly "brethren, the time is short."

That the time is short is equally evident when view through the medium of scriptural representation. In ord to render the descriptions of the divine words striki and impressive, the language of figure and metaphor employed. Man's life is spoken of as "a day"; compar to the flight of an eagle, the weaver's shuttle, the fadi leaf, the withering grass, and the perishing flower. It said to be a vapor. And to present it in the shortest ti possible, it is said to be "as nothing toward God" (Psal 35).

Our time is short considered abstractly in itself. has been computed that a generation of human bein is limited to about thirty four to thirty five years. Su pose, however, that we reckon on the data given by t Psalmist, that is three score years and ten, or four sco years. How short a time this is, especially when t necessary deductions are made from it! Childhood a youth will subtract ten years, sleep will account for or third, or better than twenty years, and saddest of how much must we reckon as being uselessly or cri inally spent which if it were possible would be bett blotted out? From these calculations it will be seen th the man of seventy years lives only about one-half that period.

(Delivered at the Pennsylvania District Conference, July 17, 1956.)

Rev. Cecil Bolton, Jr.

That the time is short is evident if you consider the mount of business that has to be crowded within the arrow limits of this life. Here must be crowded the natral, relative, and civil duties of life. So, is it strange that 'e find so little time for the momentous concerns of region and eternity? Truly the time is short, for on the resent fleeting moments are suspended all the great conerns of an unending state of existence.

The apostle continues writing and we quote: "It reaineth that both they that have wives be as though hey had none, etc." We cannot of course know what the postle had in mind, but there is much ground for belief hat the inferences relate to the necessity of moderation 1 our attachment to and use of the things of the present eeting state.

He infers to the endearing ties of social life. The inerence is not only to wives but also to parents, children, nd even friends. These we are to love and do them all he good in our power; but we are not to idolize them, ot to reckon upon their continuance. We hold them all y a very brittle and tender thread. Behold Abraham 'eeping over the remains of Sarah as only one Old Tesiment instance of the brevity and sorrow of life.

The apostle goes further and says "And they wept not." his world is truly a valley of tears. We all know there re many causes for sorrow. Still the Christian should not orrow overmuch. He is not a permanent resident of this orld.

Reference is also made to the joys of time. He says, They that rejoice as though they rejoice not." The hristian has his joys as well as his griefs. It is both s duty and privilege to rejoice in the Lord. Is it not ain that even these joys must be moderated? We are arned not to be too much elated this side Canaan.

Let us look briefly now at what the apostle says conerning the business of this life. These are his words: They that buy as though they possessed not." Surely e is warning us not to be too deeply immersed in world- concerns. Surely he is telling us not to be too anxious bout the riches of time. We are not to idolize the goods the material universe. Let us not become absorbed in ir worldly possessions. If riches increase let us give anks to our Creator, but let us not set our hearts upon e increase of those riches. Christ Himself showed the tility and foolishness of this in His story of the rich ol.

The apostle still has one word of warning for us, and is this "they that use this world, as not abusing it." use the world is, with thankfulness to receive God's eatures, and to apply them to their intended design ith moderation and prayer. To abuse it is to pervert it, waste it, to apply it to worthless and criminal purses. To truly use it is to act with it and lay it out as ewards who must give a full and solemn account for its ssession. Let us as Christians use the world as the aveler uses the inn where he tarries for the night, or a passenger uses the vessel until he reaches the desed port. Let us use it as a pilgrim does his staff from ich he derives assistance until he reaches his destinaon.

The apostle gives an impressive and forcible applicaon of the truth when he says "for the fashion of this orld passes away." All the gaudy scenery of this world is perpetually changing and like some pompous, gorgeous possession, passes away. Its riches, honors and power all pass away. Its cities and empires pass away. The same apply to beauty, health, strength, and even life itself. They all pass away. The world itself is groaning with age and speedily will lose its present fashion and be burned up in God's consuming fire.

Brethren, we have considered the time and found it to be short. Now the question remains, how can it be improved? Certainly as the time is so short we must prize and value it as our most precious possession. We must wisely expend it even as though every minute would be our last. We can daily improve it by living for eternity, living in Christ, living to Christ, and living for Christ. In short, let us heed the admonition of our Master when He said "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." Truly there are many things that are needful in this world, but since time is so short let us be like Mary and choose the better part. We can do this by looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ for ourselves and all those others with whom we have contact.

Cameron, W. Va.

Spiritual Meditations

Rev. Dyoll Belote

THAT WORTHY NAME

"That worthy name by the which ye are called." James 2:7.

AN INTERESTING and searching reward of New Testament study of the titles, either assumed or conferred upon them by those who took knowledge of them, is that of these titles bestowed upon the followers of Jesus.

Each of the titles suggests some characteristic of the life of the followers as seen by others, or of their own cherished purpose or aim.

They were known among themselves as disciples, because they were fellow learners in Christ's school. They were known also as brethren, because of the law of love which bound them in mutual recognition and consideration for each other, beside this they were known as saints, because their common aim was a life of holiness, in correspondence with the life of the One whose name they bore.

Their opponents at Antioch it will be remembered, on one occasion nicknamed them "Christians"—Christ's men, because they were so evidently followers of Christ. And this life which they evidenced was real, vital, impressive and persuasive. It is recorded of them that "they had been with Jesus." The characteristics of leaders have a tendency to reproduce themselves in the lives of true followers of such leaders.

And this most worthy name, "Christian," of all distinguishing titles, persists as the one most respected and craved by all true followers of the Nazarene in our day.

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TWELVE SUNDAYS UNDER THE FIG TREE

(Continued from last week)

Irven Stern

The House of God

The date of dedicating the new church had been set for May 27, just one day short of being three months from the date we began to tear down the old church. As the new church neared completion, many non-Christian people made their daily pilgrimage to inspect it. With its arched windows, light blue painted walls on the inside, snowy white walls outside, shiny roof and bell tower, it was rapidly becoming a thing of beauty.

I can still hear some of the old men of the village as they came into the church. They were excited, and their emotions showed it though there was a certain feeling of reverence that seemed to come over them. For they would speak only in whispers or with a very soft voice. Though many of them were not Christians they respected the building as the house of God.

"Here am I, Lord"

It seemed that God had been in on this project from the beginning. He caused the people to open their hearts and say, "Here am I, Lord, and all that I have." They gave generously of their time and from their small incomes. They prayed that we might be able to finish this work before the rains came and spoiled everything. The rains waited. The church building was finished and still the long overdue rains had not begun. Everyone was happy and rejoicing, for their new church was finished and ready for use.

Dedication

The morning of the dedication Sunday had arrived. Long before the hour set for the service to begin, the people were gathered around the church waiting for the doors to be opened so that they could get a seat. It was a large crowd, completely surrounding the building. It seemed much too large to be accommodated in the new church.

At the appointed hour, the ushers were at the doors, the Boys' Brigade came marching down the road, singing hymns and the choir filed inside to take their places. As the doors were opened the crowd became a shouting and pushing mass of humanity. All were making their bid for a place in the new church on its opening day. The crowd sounded more like the crowd that would be at the near-by market on the following day than a group of "believers" who had come to dedicate their new building to the worship of God.

Here we could see that the old ways of the people were still very close to them. This is something that cannot be changed in the twinkling of an eye, but will require years of patient and loving teaching. This pushing and shouting continued for one-half hour. Some of the crowds in Jesus' day must have been similar to this one.

Finally the organ began the first strains of the ope ing hymn. The doors were closed and the people outsi listened to the service through the windows. The servi moved along smoothly after its disorderly beginning. a cappella choir did an excellent job of singing "T Church's One Foundation" in four-part harmony. large group of people from the Higi tribe across t river sang two songs in their own tongue to the acco paniment of a native stringed instrument while th kept time with the cans filled with little stones. Richa Burger gave the dedicatory sermon in Bura and it w translated into Margi.

Nigerian church giving

Near the close of the service the chairman of the bui ing committee gave a report on the finances of the n church and pleaded with the people to give generou in order that the small debt on the church might be co pletely cleared. The offering was only fifteen cents sh of the goal.

Social hour and vesper service

In the afternoon the Africans planned and had a for all who came to fellowship with one another and joice over the fact that the new church was built a paid for. Beside serving nearly 100 gallons of tea, t had gourds and gourds piled high with bean cakes a peanut sticks.

Nearly 750 people enjoyed a social hour and then w into the church, this time in a very orderly fashion a vesper service. Stover Kulp spoke at the afternoon s vice and gave a history of the Lassa congregation. T people sang many songs, led by Maisule, pastor of church at the Garkida Leprosarium. This service attended by 550.

Future for the Lassa Church

There is a great future for the church in Lassa. Th seems to be evidence of many changes and of grow The Lassa congregation has baptized 122 new Christi into their fellowship during the first five months of t year. There is a very active and well-attended Sun school to aid in the dire need we have for Christian e cation.

There is a great interest in Christianity around La This was very evident by the large crowd of 1,082 p sons who clamored for seats at the dedication serv There is a unity in the fellowship. The way the pe sang and worshipped together indicated that they a common bond in Christian faith.

Modern trends—for Christ—?

One change that older missionaries noted was the hundred or more bicycles and even an African-owned parked under the big tree near by. Less than ten ye ago, the only bicycles in Lassa were owned by the m sionaries.

Changes are inevitable in this land. We pray that changes will be for Christ and not some other way. I

the God of us all use the new Lassa Church as a home base for the Christian fellowship here. (taken from the Gospel Messenger—topics our own)

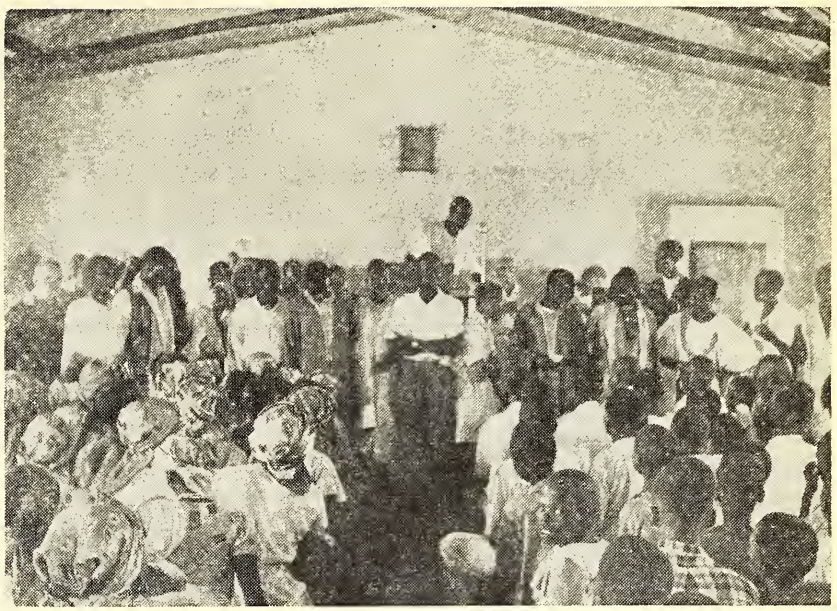
* * *

Nearly 750 persons gathered for the dedication of the completed building.

* * *

NOTICE

SAILING DATE FOR BISCHOFS AND KRAFTS TO BE FEBRUARY 9, 1957



MISSIONARY BOARD TO MEET

The Missionary Board is scheduled for its first meeting since General Conference on January 15, 1957—with the Executive Committee convening the preceding evening, January 14, at 7 P. M.

Pastors, churches or anyone having items for consideration by the Board, please send them to the office (530 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio) no later than January 10, to insure their finding a place on the agenda.

Is your church helping to reach the goal of 2,000 TEN DOLLAR CLUB MEMBERS in 1957?

January 18, 19, 20, 1957

(Sponsored by the National Ministerial Association)

REPORTS from the various parts of the denomination indicate that we are going to have a fine response to the Cross County Conference on STEWARDSHIP in January.

RESULTS from this Conference will depend on the support you give it in your Congregation. The possibilities of real strength coming from this Conference are great for our denomination. Think of the impact of such a study on STEWARDSHIP as every church studies the same subject at the same time.

REVIEWS of this Conference will be taken shortly after the week of meeting. We urge you to keep records on the sessions so that you can evaluate the program, and make suggestions for for the next Cross County Conference.

National Brethren Ministerial Association.

Support the White Gift Offering this month

Your Gifts will be a Wise Investment

We Wish You

A Merry Christmas

and

A Happy New Year

"LIVING AD

Romans 13:11

CHRISTMAS DAY is once again being ushe in with the season of Advent. Advent me the coming, arrival, preparation for an event person that is important, stately, sacred.

During this season children will have ma nights of dreaming of the wonderful toys th hope to receive. And finally, on Christmas mo ing their dreams become real! (Yes, adults h a certain sense of expectancy too!) But lest become infantile, let us regard Advent with m sacredness, importance, and stateliness. For vent represents the season when we anticip the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The early Christians greeted one another w the words "Our Lord is Coming!" How bet how much more grand will be His coming those who have prepared and expected H We may enjoy Him more, just as we enjoy Chr mas more if we are prepared. The watchw during Advent is "Awake." Prophecy is abou be fulfilled! But the simple truth is that we Ch tians do not face Christmas or any other tim life with a real sense of expectancy. In cont with that little band that greeted the comin the Lord Jesus Christ, Mary, Joseph, Zacha and Elizabeth, Simeon and Anna, the Wise and the Shepherds, we are dull and cold. T clapped their hands before Santa came; we as embittered, thinking there is no Santa!

In this thirteenth chapter of Romans St. P had been speaking about ones civic duties, obedience to the law, taxes. Then he interr his speaking of these things and says, "Enc has been said; you ought to have known al these things. There is something greater al which we should concentrate." And then he qu

ENT-ageously"

ev. H. Francis Berkshire

that wonderful eleventh verse. This is the feeling of all the Apostles. This suggests the Advent call.

There are various kinds of sleeps. First, there s the Sleep of Ignorance! These are like the vegetables that take the sustenance from the ground with the least effort and have no thought beyond. Then, there is the Sleep of Worldliness. These do not turn toward the Eternal. They may be gifted persons. They may have that wonderful God-given gift of imagination. But these gifts are tied to the lower plains of life. Often, indeed, the Sleep of the Hardened have their eyes shut, deliberately shut, to the painful and unpleasant. These are n the MIDNIGHT OF SIN. This leads to DEATH! Still further, the Sleep of Indifference omes through excessive familiarity. They are s one who has become so used to beautiful music hat they can fall asleep while it is being played. These have lost reverence and appreciation for he Eternal. These are the perilous drugs that dull he Spirit and God in the human soul.

Let Advent wake us up! Let it open our eyes nd see God revealed in the flesh in the person of esus Christ. The answer to the problems of our enomination, and to our local churches, is the ord AWAKE! No problem may remain unsolved we apply rightly the word AWAKE.

During this Advent season, let us plant the seed f suggestion in the soul of another with the ords, "Our Lord is Coming." This is the life hat may be lived ADVENT-ageously and ADANTAGEOUSLY.

Christmas is coming . . .
Christ is coming too . . .
Are you prepared?

Lanark, Ill.

What Is Christmas?

H. A. Gossard

CHRISTMAS is giving
Along with the gift
One's spirit of living
The LOVE that will lift
(John 3:16)

Some burden or sorrow
(Gal. 6:2)

And leave there a joy
To make each tomorrow
Worth more than a Toy.

Had God been greedy
And withheld His Son
(Romans 8:32)

From this world so needy,
Which He could have done,

Would LOVE be the thing
Now redeeming from sin?
Could we gladly sing
"Blessed SAVIOUR, Come in." (?)
(Revelation 3:20)

Young Men's and Boys' Brotherhood Program

Percy C. Miller—Topic Editor
Month of January

Topic—MISSION OF THE TWELVE

1. **The Twelve Sent—Mark 6:7-13.**

Two by two Jesus sent the twelve away,
They took nothing along
Save a staff and a song
As they went on their mission that day.

Power He gave them over spirits unclean,
No script for what they said
No money and no bread,
Only one coat that could be seen.

Into whatever house they entered,
They were to stay
Until they went away,
All their living should there be centered.

If anyone would receive them not
Their departure they should take,
From their feet the dust shake,
And sad would be that one's lot.

2. **Go Without Money—Matt. 10:9-15.**

Even as Jesus commanded His workers "to go without money," so do many of His workers today as they go into big cities to establish churches. And likewise, today every attempt is made to find out as soon as possible who in the city is worthy. How sad that many times the the very ones who were members of the church elsewhere are of little assistance in helping to establish Christ's church in this large city. On the other hand, often a faithful saint of God has struggled for long, hard years to preach the gospel, regardless of a lack of money or other material needs. How wonderful it is though to know that Christ's word is preached regardless of physical circumstances.

3. **Sheep Among Wolves—Matt. 10:16-23.**

Jesus certainly did not leave His workers in the dark concerning the kind of treatment they could expect as they went about preaching. Perhaps if more Christians would read these verses of Scripture there would be a turning away even greater than Gideon experienced with his men. God blesses and provides in a very special way for those who serve Him in places where the trials are the hardest. Whatever the dark side may look like, there is a bright side of wondrous beauty to the service which Christians everywhere render to Christ.

4. **A Question Of Loyalty—Matt. 10:34-39.**

The more we read the words of the Lord the more impressed we become with the necessity of putting Jesus first in our hearts, our work, our interests and our thoughts. Jesus' purpose in coming into the world was not to cause trouble. But trouble would be the natural effect because of His demands; for people have always struggled to hold onto their own will rather than give in to Him. The cross is a symbol of a painful duty. Can we honestly say we have taken up this cross and daily strive to be loyal to Him?

5. **Rest After Labor—Mark 6:30-34.**

In heavenly love abiding,
No change my heart shall fear;
And safe is such confiding,
For nothing changes here.
The storm may roar without me,
My heart may low be laid,
But God is round about me,
And can I be dismayed?

Wherever He may guide me,
No want shall turn me back;
My Shepherd is beside me,
And nothing can I lack.
His wisdom ever waketh,
His sight is never dim;
He knows the way He taketh,
And I will walk with Him.

Green pastures are before me,
Which yet I have not seen;
Bright skies will soon be o'er me,
Where darkest clouds have been.
My hope I cannot measure,
My path to life is free;
My Saviour has my treasure,
And He will walk with me.

MY DIARY

Mrs. George Drushal

Sept. 27. Thur. Better attendance at Rowdy than usual. Began studying Genesis at the Bible class at Landrums. One woman said "I didn't know there was so much in that book."

Sept. 28. Fri. Mrs. Joseph, who has been helping out temporarily with high school teaching says she could only teach a few more days. We have no one to take her place. Had prayer meeting with teachers from 4 to 5 this evening to pray for a teacher.

Sept. 29. Sat. Today was the day for the meeting of our Official Board, but as the Moderator of our church could not be present, we postponed it until Monday night. Papa and Mr. Hall went over to the supposedly "Big Meeting " at Buckhorn, in honor of the beginning of the work on the big dam. Lots of people there, and that was about all there was to it. Adah to Cleo Campbells at Dunraven for the day and night. Folks from New Lebanon came today with a big load of clothing, canned fruit, jelly, etc. They only stayed long enough to look around. Rev. Martin came this morning to bring a refrigerator for the dormitory and 30 gal. of paint. The Lord provides in many unexpected ways.

NEWS FROM BRETHREN YOUTH

Phil Lersch, Youth Director

HERE HE IS!!!

IN PERSON!!!

"BILLY BOOTH—

the BRETHREN YOUTH"

YOU'VE READ about the coming of Billy Booth, the Brethren Youth, you've heard about him and the work he is doing, but NOW you are able to see him with your very own eye-balls.

Billy has already put out the BRETHREN YOUTH HANDBOOK and now he is anxious to get started on a subscription drive for the BRETHREN YOUTH MAGAZINE. Billy says, "I think the B. Y. Magazine must be in every home or we can't expect to have everyone know what's going on. It doesn't cost much, only $1.00 a year, and the sooner we can get some more subscriptions, the more Brethren Youth will move forward instead of standing still. Why don't you all send in your subscription today?" Be sure to check the center spread of the last issue. Billy is extending Christmas greetings to all of you from all of Brethren Youth.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BRETHREN YOUTH MAGAZINE by sending your name, address and $1.00 to Brethren Youth, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio. On December 11th, we mailed out over 300 "second notices" to folks whose subscription has expired. Renew now. WE NEED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION. YOU NEED TO HAVE THE MAGAZINE.

BOOSTER CLUB CHAIRMEN, take note

If you are responsible for memberships in the Brethren Youth BOOSTER CLUB in your church, be sure to send the money and card-stubs soon to our national office. Thank you for taking care of this matter.

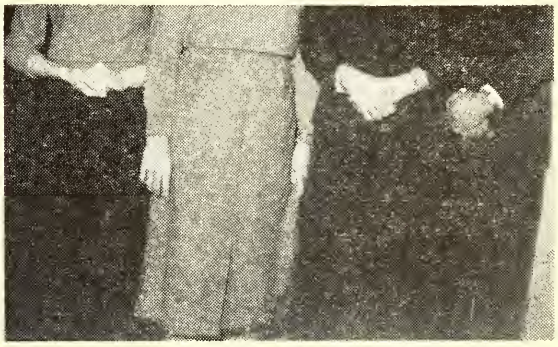
MIAMI "VALLEY" goes to A PLEASANT "HILL"

That's right! B. Y. doesn't fuss around with small stuff. We moved an entire valley over to a hill. Well, at least over 100 Brethren Youth attended the Miami Valley B. Y. rally at Pleasant Hill, Ohio on Sunday, December 9th. That was the Sunday of the big snow, but it cleared off in the afternoon so a good-sized crowd could attend the rally.

The Pleasant Hill young people did a good job conducting the devotions to open the afternoon program and then we entered into another BRETHREN YOUTH WORKSHOP. If, by chance, you don't know what a B. Y. workshop is, just examine the last 20 issues of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST. You're bound to find one referred to in there somewhere.

As usual, a fine supper was prepared by the ladies of the church, followed by an evening inspirational program at which the Youth Director brought the message. GRETNA WON THE ATTENDANCE BANNER, after the mathematicians in the group interpreted a system more complicated than income tax forms. Congratulations, Gretna. Keep up the active program you are engaged in.

The young people of Pleasant Hill are growing and they did a fine job of entertaining the entire Miami Valley on their hill."



(this picture is continued from the Nov.-Dec. issue of the Brethren Youth Magazine, page 19)

Pictured here are ? ? ? ? ?

Since running the top half of this picture in the Brethren Youth Magazine, I have lost the names and occasion connected with this part of the picture. There's only one thing for you to do—turn to page 19 of the B. Y. Magazine and find out what it's all about.

You say you don't have one? Elsewhere on this page instructions are given for subscribing. Not a bad idea either! **Who knows, this may be your picture.**

MY LAST WORDS—this year!

PUBLIC THANKS goes to Rev. W. S. Benshoff for his editorial last week supporting the BRETHREN YOUTH HANDBOOK. Follow his suggestion and USE IT.

Lastly, ALL OF US IN BRETHREN YOUTH, including BILLY BOOTH, WISH YOU A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS SEASON, and A HAPPY, CHRIST-CENTERED NEW YEAR.

Prayer Meeting Studies

By C. Y. Gilmer

PRAYERFUL RESOLUTIONS

"What shall I ask for the coming year?
What shall my watchword be?
What would'st Thou do for me, dear Lord?
What shall I do for Thee?

"Lord, I would ask for a holy year,
Spent in Thy perfect will;
Help me to walk in Thy very steps—
Help me to please Thee still."

HONEST PEOPLE, wanting to do right before God, must make prayerful resolutions (Dan. 1:8). Daniel's determination to have regular seasons of prayer led him to defy the decree of the king, which meant that he would be devoured by lions (Dan. 6:10). Daniel meant business with God at all costs (1 Tim. 5:22). Let every Christian purpose not to defile himself with habits that grieve the heart of God and weaken his influence for Christ (Psalm 51:10).

"Lord, I would ask for a trustful year;
Humble, and yet so high;
Help me to sink at Thy blessed feet,
And on Thy bosom lie."

To trust God, let us vow to tithe and to give Him offerings lest we worship mammon and idols (Gen. 28:16-22; Matt. 6:24). Abraham, who tithed long before the Mosaic Law was given (Gen. 14:18-20), was an example for all New Testament Christians (Rom. 4:3, 22-24). To trust God is to trust Him in the tithing requirement (Mal. 3:10). Faithfulness in giving brings prosperity (2 Cor. 9:6; Luke 6:38). Try tithing for a prosperous New Year (1 Cor. 16:2).

"Lord, I would ask for a year of love;
Oh, let me love Thee best!
Give me the love that faileth not
Under the hardest test."

David resolved to love His God (Psalm 18:1). He resolved to love God's law (Psalm 119:97). To love God is to love His Word (Psalm 119:15, 16, 34, 47, 48). How about Bible reading and family worship for the New Year (Psalm 59:16)?

Lord, I would ask for a busy year,
Filled up with service true;
Doing with all Thy Spirit's might
All that I find to do."

If we have missed the mark, let us get re-instated (Psalm 51:12, 13). Let us labor earnestly for the salvation of souls (Acts 20:31). Let us go to no end of sacrifice and effort in this business (1 Cor. 9:19-23). Let nothing hinder our testimony (1 Cor. 9:27).

"Lord, I would ask for a year of prayer—
Teach me to walk with Thee;
Breathe in my heart Thy Spirit's breath;
Pray Thou Thy prayer in me."

Let us resolve to take everything to God in praye (Psalm 116:2; Phil. 4:6). Let us keep our sins confesse (1 John 1:9). Let us be "praying in the Holy Spirit, keeping ourselves in the love of God (Jude 20, 21).

"Lord I would ask for a dying world;
Stretch forth Thy mighty hand;
Scatter Thy Word—Thy power display
This year in every land.

"Lord, I would ask for a year of hope,
Looking for Thee to come,
And hastening on that year of years
That brings us Christ and Home."

Poetry by A. B. Simpson.

THE CHURCH IN HEAVEN DURING THE TRIBULATION

"What a day will that be when the Savior appears
How welcome to those who have shared in His cross!
A crown incorruptible then will be theirs,
A rich compensation for suff'ring and loss."

CHRIST described how the saints would be severe from their unsaved associates on this earth (Luk 17:34-36). The Christians are to be raptured to mee Christ in the air (1 Thess. 4:16, 17). This will not be th time when Christ will occupy the throne of His fathe David (Luke 1:32, 33). It will not be until after the trib ulation that Christ will appear "with power and grea glory" and will regather "His elect," the Jews in thi instance (Matt. 24:29-31).

The rapture is an instantaneous summons that wil carry the true believer out of this earth (Matt. 24:40). Fo there will be Christians living on the earth when this even takes place (1 Cor. 15:51-57). This will be the Lord' call for His Church, those who have oil, which is a typ of the Holy Spirit, in their lamps (Matt. 25:1-13). Jesu has promised His own a reception (John 14:2, 3). Th time of this reception is not known (Matt. 24:36). Christ' visible return to earth with His saints after the raptur is preceded by the great tribulation signs, distress, an perils (Luke 21:25-27). The great tribulation is to b the climax of all woes that have ever come upon th world that will terminate in the battle of Armageddo (Dan. 12:1; Joel 2:2; Matt. 24:21-22).

The great assemblying of the saints of all ages i Heaven is foretold in Hebrews 12:22-24. The Church (Eph 1:22, 23; Col. 1:18) must be assembled before its reig with Christ in His Kingdom on earth (Heb. 12:28). Thi will be the time of the great wedding feast in Heave (Matt: 25:1-13). This will be the time of the recompens of the resurrected just (Luke 14:12-14). Matthe 22:1-14 is a parable illustrating the wedding feast i Heaven. Here the Church as the glorified bride of Chris will appear (Eph. 5:25-27). Here the Christian will giv an account of the stewardship of himself in his earthl life (2 Cor. 5:10). It will be a time of judgment on ou

tewardship of life (Rom. 14:10, 12). This judgment for Christians is described in 1 Cor. 3:10-15.

Christ comes FOR His saints in order to come WITH His saints (Jude 14). The saints who have made themselves worthy shall have appointments under the King of kings during His Kingdom reign (Rev. 3:21; 5:9, 10; 20:4). The sinner shall dread the day of Christ's revelation from Heaven (Rev. 1:7). The God-defiant of earth shall quake with an unnamed fear (Rev. 6:12-17).

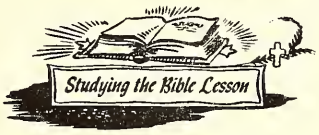
"I dreamed that the Great Judgment morning
Had dawned and the trumpet had blown;
I dreamed that the nations had gathered
Together before the Great Throne.

"From the throne came a bright shining angel
And stood on the land and the sea,
And swore with his hand raised to Heaven
That time was no longer to be.

"And, oh, what a weeping and wailing
When the lost were told of their fate;
They cried for the rocks and the mountains;
They prayed, but their prayer was too late."

Let us be warned against negligence (Rev. 2:5), worldliness (1 John 2:15), pride and strife (1 Peter 5:5; 1 Cor. 3:3), fleshly lusts (1 Cor. 6:18-20). Let us, like Paul, be ready to leave this world (2 Tim. 4:6, 7).

Lesson Comments by William H. Anderson



Lesson for December 30, 1956

ALL THINGS MADE NEW

Lesson: Revelation 21:1-8, 22-27

A LITTLE GIRL one day said to her mother: "Mamma, my Sunday School teacher tells me that this world is only a place in which God lets us live a while, that we may prepare for a better world. But, mother, I do not see anybody preparing. I see you preparing to go into the country, and Aunt Eliza is preparing to come here; but I do not see anyone preparing to go there; why don't they try to get ready?"

The Bible plainly declares there is coming a day when this present world will be destroyed. The ones who have failed to make proper preparation in this life will suffer eternal punishment. "Nevertheless we (Christians), according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (II Peter 3:13).

HEAVEN! How wonderful it sounds to the ears of the weary and distressed. Heaven is God's promise of deliverance for the Godly.

God's Word has much to say about this wonderful place called Heaven. Especially is this true in the book of the Revelation. Notice some things found in chapter 21:

HEAVEN'S SOURCE. God! "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven" (v. 2). The creator is God. No wonder it is called "the holy city."

HEAVEN'S PURPOSE. Heaven is a place where men may dwell with God, and where He may dwell with men (vs. 3). Before sin entered the world, Adam and Eve enjoyed blessed fellowship with God. In that city where no sin can ever enter, we will be privileged to enjoy communion with God the Father, and God the Son. "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God."

HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS. In Heaven no death, sorrow, crying, or pain will be found. These things shall be no more, for the curse of sin will be lifted from the earth. "For the former things are passed away" (vs. 4).

HEAVEN'S RULER. Jesus Christ, the "Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end," will be Ruler of the glorious, heavenly city (vs. 6).

HEAVEN'S INHABITANTS. Who shall be able to enter into the gates of pearl? The Bride of Christ (vs. 2); the Overcomer (vs. 7); the "nations of them which are saved" (vs. 24); the ones whose names "are written in the Lamb's book of life" (vs. 27).

HEAVEN'S BEAUTIES. So radiant and so glorious will be Heaven there shall be "no need of the sun, neither of the moon; . . . for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof" (vs. 23). Indeed, it shall be filled with glory and honour (vs. 26).

"That unchangeable home is for you and for me,
Where Jesus of Nazareth stands;
The King of all kingdoms forever is He,
And He holdeth our crowns in His hands.

Oh, how sweet it will be in that beautiful land,
So free from all sorrow and pain;
With songs on our lips and with harps in our hands
To meet one another again."

Lesson for January 6, 1957

WISE MEN SEEK JESUS

Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW is our study book for the first quarter of 1957. In our lessons we will study the various phases of the life and ministry of our Lord as presented by Matthew.

Matthew was a Jew. He wrote to Jewish Christians to prove that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ, the predicted Messiah, the King of the Jews. His book was written some 30 years after the resurrection of Christ.

Because Matthew is the Gospel of the King he presents the birth of Christ from that viewpoint. In chapter two he reveals the effect the birth of Christ had upon royalty.

The Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem to inquire into the whereabouts of the new-born king. "When Herod the king had heard these things he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him."

Christmas and its message that a King is born will

always have its effect upon men. Note how the news was received 1900 years ago:

1. "Herod the king . . . was troubled." This was not unusual for it meant a rival king had come upon the scene. He was concerned for his own political safety and security. Little did Herod realize Jesus Christ had no political ambitions.

2. Not only was Herod troubled, but "all Jerusalem with him." Why was the Holy City of Jerusalem troubled? Her people did not want a Saviour-King! Years later Jesus was to look out over this same city and cry out in anguish:

> "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matt. 23:37)

3. The Wise Men also heard about the birth of the King. What did this news mean to them? Having followed the star to Jerusalem they said they had "come to worship Him." The star led them to Bethlehem and to the manger scene where "they rejoiced with exceeding great joy (lit. "ecstatic joy")."

The Wise Men from the east sought the Christ-Child until they found Him. Who are the Wise Men today? **Those who are truly wise will go in quest of the King, and will not stop until they find Him to the satisfaction of their souls! They are wise who will let nothing—either distance, time, trouble, expense, or sacrifice—interfere with their diligent search after God!**

"O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend on us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel."

HOW ABOUT YOUR OFFERINGS?

Give through your local Church, or if this is not possible, note the following information. Church Treasurers also please note:

WHITE GIFT OFFERING

Make checks payable to Henry Bates, Treasurer of the Sunday School Board of the Brethren Church, and address to Rev. Henry Bates, 404 N. Wayne St., North Manchester, Indiana.

(BRETHREN YOUTH NEWS ON PAGE ELEVEN)

Sunday School Suggestion

The Sunday School Board of The Brethren Church

by Jerry Flora

MECHANICS OF FILM STRIP PROJECTION

MANY PEOPLE use filmstrips in Sunday school worl but few use them correctly. To get best results, tı the following steps. They are reprinted by special pe mission of the Moody Institute of Science, producer (the "Sermons from Science" filmstrips.

1. Be sure to provide adequate ventilation in the roon darkness and stuffiness induce drowsiness.

2. No extraneous light should be spilling into the roo or glaring in the eyes of the audience.

3. Remove all visually distracting objects which migl compete with the screen for attention.

4. See that no one can intrude upon the showin from the front of the room, since it also distracts atte tion.

5. Also guard against opening of doors in the re or sides of the room, permitting outside light to stril the screen.

6. Seat as many as possible in front of the projecto to provide highest visibility of screen images.

7. Seat all as **close to the light beam** as possible. N one should sit at a wider angle than 45 degrees.

8. Bear this in mind: The vividness of the project picture will vary with: A. The size of the image. B. Tl darkness of the room.

9. The screen must be set at right angles to the li of projection. Otherwise it will be impossible to focus tl image uniformly over the screen area.

10. Be certain that the surface of the screen mat rial is without wrinkles or bulges to avoid distortion the image.

11. Set the projector on a rigid stand high enough project over the heads of the audience.

12. Tie a loop in the projector cord around a leg the table to prevent the projector being accidental pulled off.

13. Switch off the light when you have reached "t end" title and then clear the blank film from the pı jector.

14. When hand-winding film do not start with a lar loop and later pull the film tight into a small roll. Tl "cinches" or scratches the film beyond remedy.

15. Keep glass and optical parts of the projector cle at all times, for dust, hair and grit will not only be se on the screen, but will also damage the film surface.

16. Remember—to insure the life of the film, hanc it with care. Always place fingers on the outside edg so as not to scratch or dirty the surface.

The Women's Corner

by Helen Jordan

HOW'S YOUR Christmas Spirit? At low ebb because you have too many things still to do before Dec. 25th? Or are you one of those efficient souls who gets everything done beforehand and can sit and enjoy the lovely season? Or do you just feel left out of the hustle and bustle? No matter which you are:

The year your eldest wants to help the budget by making some gifts for friends;

And your husband suddenly clutters up the house with that do-it-yourself project you've wanted done for months;

When your youngest is old enough to want something from almost every page in the catalogue;

And your non-school lover shows signs of interest in worthwhile hobby gifts;

Greeting cards seem more Christmassy;

Magazines describe customs you remember from your childhood;

Your old decorations don't look as shabby as you thought and the greens and pine cones smell just grand;

The day your most reluctant angel goes willingly to Junior Choir practise and comes home singing snatches of the music and models a choir robe with real pleasure;

And your Sunday School Class seems to come alive with true zeal just when you were ready to give up;

Or a loved one brings forth a new born child;

Suddenly you are aware of lots of energy to finish all those pre-Christmas chores and to enjoy those extra services at the church.

Then you know that once again God has wrought His miracle—The Spirit of Christmas—in your heart, and when Christmas is in your heart, it is in your home. Christmas helps many of us along that way of truth and life that God had in mind when He gave His Son to live in a family on this earth.

Mrs. Elton Whitted,
Ashland, Ohio.

"FOR UNTO YOU is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" Luke 2:11.

What a great message of hope and joy these words were, from the lips of an angel! What a joy and comfort they are to us who live in an everchanging world.

As each year, when Christmas time comes 'round, my heart is warmed by the happiness and joy seen on the faces of little children, busy parents, and those who are older, because hope is again renewed in knowing there is something great to live for, "Eternal Life."

While those forces of evil all over the world are trying to break down the belief in the divinity of our Saviour, we know that the forces of good are so much stronger and in the end will prevail.

I've been so thankful to have been born into a family where Christian training preceded all other training. To me it has been a challenge to help young people, whose lives I have touched in my journey through life, to feel and know that a Christian belief is the most precious possession any one can have.

So let us, as mothers and grandmothers, pray constantly, that the Christ-child may dwell forever in the hearts of our children and grandchildren so that their lives may count for the Master.

"Oh Holy Child of Bethlehem!
Descend on us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas Angels
The great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord, Immanuel."

Mrs. John C. Werner,
Berlin, Penna.

"AND THE ANGEL said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:10-14.

The coming of Christ was a joyous occasion in heaven. Angels appeared in the sky to shout the glad tidings. Truly for them the birth of Christ was a wonderful occurrence.

But for men—it was hardly an occurrence at all. Very few even seemed to notice the great star in the sky which the wise men followed. And only a few lowly shepherds seemed to hear the voices of the angels. The long-awaited Messiah had come to save His people, but His people didn't even recognize Him. Nobody knew who He was!

Many people of our own time fail to recognize Him, and if they do recognize Him fail to accept Him. True Christians look back to the birth of Christ with real joy; but not only do they look back, they also look forward to a time of unspeakable heavenly joy when Christ shall come in all His Glory.

Mrs. Joseph R. Shultz,
Washington, D. C.

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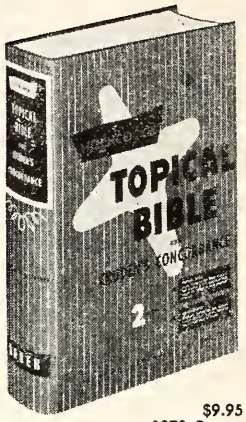

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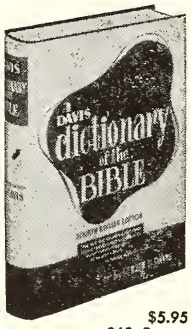

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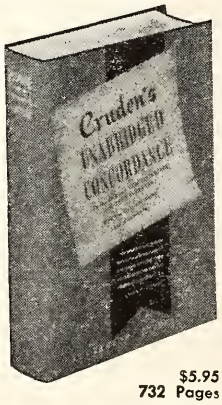

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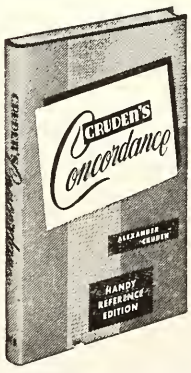

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